PHOTOGRAPHING BATS IN FLIGHT BY JOHN HOOPER

# COUNTRY LIFE

MARCH 15, 1956

TWO SHILLINGS



MAZE OVER THE RIVER THE JUST NEAR HEREFORD

Derek Evans



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Lift Foreground Tire Opal in Queenware: climics set for six £18.5.0. Tea set for six £5.15.0.

Centre Background Santa Clara on bone china. Coffee set for six £8.10.0. Early morning tea set Lat two £4.12.6.

Centre Emegranud Green Glaze leaf pickle 6-6. China sweet dish, Anemone 7-6. Small china sweet dish in Devon Sprays 6-3. Green Glaze Buffer set 1.7-6.

Right Background Hand embossed Queensware bombon, 37 , tlower wase £1.3.0; square bombon £1.11.0.

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JOSTAH WEDGWOOD AND SONS LTD No I BARLASTON STOKE-ON-TRENT

# DUNTRY LI

Vol. CXIX No. 3087

## KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

#### EAST SUSSEX-8 MILES FROM COAST

Convenient to main line station for City and Charing Cross

A MODERN GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE WITH 95 ACRES

Over 300 ft. above sea level, with glorious panoramic views and facing full south.

4 reception rooms, 8-9 bedrooms 4 bathrooms. 2 self-contained staff flats. Main electric light and gas.

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Agents: Messrs, KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (50.465 R.P.L.

Modern T.T. farmery of 41 acres.

Lodge, and 3 modern cottages. 43 acres valuable woodland.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT MODERATE PRICE

EXTRA LAND IF REQUIRED BY ARRANGEMENT

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A fine late Georgian House on two floors only, completely modernised, in almost faultless order, and facing south.

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ABOUT 14 ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD



Messis KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

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House with 5 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Numerous outbuildings and African quarters. Cowshed for 40. Sheep shed for 50-60. Pigsties Good water supply, Private electricity from 2 engines, one for light and one for power.

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In excellent order 4 reception rooms, pillared logger, 5 principal and 3 staff bedrooms,

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A lovely period cottage deep in the country.

Containing Containing:
LOUNGE,
MORNING ROOM,
KITCHEN,
BATHROOM,
3 INTERCOMMUNICATING BEDROOMS
DRESSING ROOM Main water. Private etricity (main available). PRETTY GARDEN

1/2 OR 7 ACRES

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In one of the most picturesque and peaceful villages in the county—within easy reach of Winchester.

THIS OUTSTANDING RESIDENCE

HALL WITH CLOAKS. 4 RECEPTION ROOMS, 5 BEDROOMS AND 3 BATHROOMS

Main electricity and water Oil-fired central heating Self-contained staff flat. 2 attractive staff cottages. GARAGE BLOCK AND HORSE BOX



SERVICES: Main electricity, estate water supply, septic tank

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TO BE LET UNFURNISHED ON

LEASE FOR 7 OR 14 YEARS

with 11 ACRES or 87 ACRES, including the

delightful parkland and lake.

Parklike grounds with hard tennis court, of approximately 61/2 ACRES

PRICE £9,000 FREEHOLD

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By instruction of THE RT. HON. LORD LEIGH

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BIRMINGHAM 45 miles. PADDINGTON 2 brs.

#### FINE MODERNISED 17th AND 18th CENTURY MANOR HOUSE

LOUNGE RALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS. 15 BEDROOMS, 5 BATHROOMS RANGE OF STABLING AND OUTBUILDINGS UP TO 4 COTTAGES AVAILABLE



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Main electric light and water GARAGE AND STABLE BLOCK ! HOME FARM WITH GENTLEMAN'S HOUSE

2 OTHER SMALL FARMS LODGE, 7 COTTAGES, THE TOTAL AREA IS ABOUT 395 ACRES



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POSSESSION

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DETACHED STONE-BUILT HOUSE with mullioned windows and other character features. Beautifully appointed and modernised. Hall, 3 rec., easy-torun offices, cloakroom, 5 beds, 2 baths, staff bed.

Double garage with stabling. Small pleasure garden.

Mains water and electric light. Central heating. Adjacent T.T., dairy farm (75 acres) can also be bought.

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.

OUTSKIRTS OF MALTON. In pleasant residential area. DETACHED MODERN HOUSE with sparious rooms offering vestibule, hall, cloakroom, 2 rec, kitchen with Ideal, 5 leds, dressing room, bath, and sep. w.c. Garage, Pretty garden, V2 ACRE, All county exprise.

That services.

EVERY ATTRACTIVE MODERNISED HOUSE in secluded grounds and in splendid order. Hall, 3 rec, up-to-date kitchen with Aga, etc., cloakroom, 5 principal bedrooms, dressing room and 2 baths. Excellent outbuildings with stabiling. Main services. Easily main-

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RHOSNEIGR. DETACHED MODERN HOUSE overlooking sea, built 1939. 2 rec., 4 beds., bathroom. Main services. Garage. PRICE £3,900.

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CRICCIETH. SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE close to beach. 2 rec., 3 beds., bathroom. Garage. Main services. PRICE £3,000.

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3 miles from Christchurch and the coast.

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Charming brick and cob Period Cottage, with thatched roof, in excel-lent order throughout.

IN ALL 1/2 ACRE

FOR SALE BY AUCTION IN APRIL

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London 26 miles. Close to bus and station with excellent train services.

AN ATTRACTIVE WELL-BUILT HOUSE

2 reception rooms, a bed-rooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms

Main electric light and water.

GARAGE FOR 3 T.T. attested farmery with good buildings.

IN ALL 181/2 ACRES



FOR SALE FREEHOLD PRICE £6,500

Sole Agents: Messrs, KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (53,664 KM)

#### WANTED

#### NO COMMISSION REQUIRED

Within 5 miles of Tunbridge Wells or 10 miles of Sevenoaks

#### A PERIOD OR CHARACTER HOUSE

WITH 6 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS. EASILY RUN GARDEN AND PADDOCK

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In the beautiful hill district of Broederstrom, near the Magalisberg Mountains.

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A NEWLY-BUILT HOTEL OF UNIQUE ARCHITECTURE STANDING IN ABOUT 90 ACRES

Comprising SUITES, DOUBLE AND SINGLE ROOMS FOR 106 GUESTS, BARS, RECREATION ROOMS, LOUNGES, RESTAURANT FOR 120 DINERS.

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PRICE £65,000 including the contents

Part of the price would be left on loan.

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IN THE COUNTRY SOUTH OF READING AN OAK-BEAMED TUDOR COTTAGE



FOR SALE FREEHOLD, £4,000 including all fittings, also fitted carpets, curtains, etc.

Apply Reading Office.

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16th-century "Black and White" Cottage FREEHOLD £5,000

#### READING TO BANBURY

On high ground (essential).

#### WANTED TO PURCHASE A SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE

WITH 4-5 BEDROOMS (MAX.) AND

A PADDOCK OF BETWEEN 5-10 ACRES

The prospectice purchaser is about to sell her own house and asks for details to be sent to

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#### MODERN HOUSE ON SEMI-BUNGALOW LINES

3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Lovely garden including rough woodland—in all **2 ACRES**. Main water, electricity and gas. Garage, workshop and

FOR SALE BY AUCTION. Low rates.

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Amidst rural succoundings yet handy for Reading (Pad-dington 45 mins.)



CHARMING COTTAGE

(up-to-date though centuries o .). Hall with cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 4 befrooms, bathroom. Mains, Garage. 2 ACRES, including 14-acre paddock.

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COUNTRY RESIDENCE IN SUPERB ORDER

Drive approach.

Imposing hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, staff accommodation and exceptional offices.

tak floors, joinery, fitted basins. All main services. Oil-burning central heating.

GARAGE 3 CARS

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LOVELY GARDENS AND GROUNDS of about 5 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE privately or by Auction at an early date.

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Fresh in the market

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Retween Rasinastoke and Winchester

FOR SALE. A REGENCY HOUSE ON TWO FLOORS

South aspect. Main services Central heating. 10 bedrooms, 2 bathroom 5 reception rooms.

LODGE. STABLING GARAGES, FLAT

PARKLAND Economical gardens, in all about 40 ACRES

This property is included in the list of historical houses of interest.



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A short motor run from Barnstaple with bus service at the drive

#### FOR BALE

#### A MILL HOUSE

which has been well modernised and is in excellent order.

3 reception rooms (one 24 ft. 6 ins. by 18 ft ins.), 6 or 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Electric light. Central heating

Water Mill complete and in good working order.

Stabling. Garage and useful buildings Excellent cottage,

Walled garden, orchards and woodlands pasture, etc., in all about 371/2 ACRES

3/4 MILE TROUT FISHING ON RIVER YEO



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Close to golf course. 1 mile Walton-on-Thames Station, Esher 2 miles. A DELIGHTFUL MODERN HOUSE with a continental atmosphere, enjoying the maximum sunshine and superbly fitted.



Hall, half-tiled cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, lovely sun room, labour-saving offices, 4 principal bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, 2 staff rooms and bathroom.

All main services.

Complete central heating.

Charming garden with orchard and hard tennis

11/4 ACRES

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ARCHITECT DESIGNED RESIDENCE IN THE GEORGIAN STYLE



Approached by drive.
Spacious hall with
galleried landing,
cloakroom, charming
drawing room about
26 ft. 6 ins. by 24 ft.,
the dining room about
1 ft. by 16 ft., morning
room, 4 principal
drooms (3 with basins,
and e), dressing room.

Delightful grounds, tennis court, small orchard, kitchen garden, etc., in all about 11/2 ACRES

PRICE £7.500 FREEHOLD (K 54667) ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AREA ABOVE SEAFORD

WELL PLANNED FAMILY RESIDENCE

Hall, drawing room, dining room, beautiful garden room 28 ft. 9 ins. by 13 ft, 3 ins., compact and well-planned domestic offices, 6 bedrooms. 3 bathrooms

Central heating throughout

All main services

Garage for 2.



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#### BETWEEN

#### GODALMING AND FARNHAM

PICTURESQUE STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

Hall, 4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, compact offices Garages and stabling with rooms over

Lodge and bungalow

Main electricity and water

Magnificent timbers grounds of 36 ACRES



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HYDE PARK 4304

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A Picturesque Small House of Genuine Tudor Character with an attractive Pig and Poultry Farm



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It is emphasised that the house requires a certain expenditure in repair and decoration, but it is one with very great possibilities and well worthy of such an outlay. It contains: fine heavily beamed lounge (25 ft. by 19 ft.), dining room, spacious kitchen, 3-5 bedrooms, haltroom. Main electricity and mater. Oast House (ideal for conversion), ample outbuildings including fine barn (32 ft. by 22 ft.).

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FREEHOLD ONLY £5,950. VACANT POSSESSION Solid Agents: Mesers, Osnorn & Mercer, as above. nd a 4-acre cherry orchard in

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A Fascinating Small Period House with a Trout Stream and Weir Pool

IN THE TRADITIONAL SUSSEX STYLE WITH TYPICAL OLD-WORLD FEATURES, YET MODERNISED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRESENT DAY REQUIREMENTS

Main electricity and water. Central heating.

Picturesque cottage Garage,

Charming but inexpensive gardens and agricultural land (at present let) in all ABOUT 151/2 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD 68.750

Joint Sole Agents Messrs, Osno AND Sons, 19



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GROsvenor 1032-33-34

KENT. NEAR SANDWICH
in a small village immune from all traffic. Itridle path to the sea,
1\(\) miles distant.



A MELLOW CAROLEAN HOUSE OF EXCEPTIONAL CHARM IN FREEHOLD £5.500

SUSSEX



CHARMING REGENCY HOUSE 30 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE.

## HILLIER, PARKER, MAY & ROWDEN

NEAR CANTERBURY, KENT Built 1648

> HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM Built of mellowed red brick

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, modern kitchen quarters, maids' sitting room, 4 principal bedrooms and dressing rooms, 2 secondary bedrooms and dressing rooms. 4 bathrooms

Oil-fire I central heating.

2 cottages, ample farm buildings. Farm land, about 20 ACRES, all of which is pasture.

FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION PRICE £11.500

7 MILES FROM BEDFORD

Double-fronted

FAMILY RESIDENCE

comprising hall, lounge, dining room, reception room, conservatory, sewing room, kitchen, excellent domestic 3 bathrooms, also a new addition which could easily be adapted as a separate cottage with games room, 2 hed-

Excellent outbuildings, double garage, summer house. Kitchen garden, orchard and paddock totalling about 2 , ACRES

FREEHOLD £5,500 WITH POSSESSION

CROWBOROUGH, SUSSEX

Detached Residence

OVERLOOKING GOLF COURSE

40 miles from London

Sun lounge, founge full, cloakroom, dining room, drawing room, excellent domestic quarters, 5 bedrooms (3 with wash basins), bathroom.

Grounds about 3 ACRES, including paddock. Excellent outbuildings, double garage, greenhouse.

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LOVELY WEALD OF KENT

A DELIGHTFULLY CHARACTERISTIC OLD HOUSE DATING FROM THE 16th CENTURY

e spacious and remark-y lofty rooms include ing hall, 2 other recep-n rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathrooms, spacious domestic offices.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AS A WHOLE or House and Garden only.

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Near the old market town of Aylesbury

A MODERN HOUSE OF TUDOR CHARACTER

Having 5 bedreions, bath room, 2 reception rooms breakfast reem and kitchen.

Main services, t'entral keating

DETACHED BLOCK 2 ACRES.

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Under 2 miles Romsey Away from aerodromes, etc.

7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3-4 good reception rooms (two being 24 ft. by 18 ft.).

Main water and electricity. Central heating.

GARAGE 3 CARS AND OTHER BUILDINGS.

WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS, large lawns and park like pasture

#### 9 ACRES. £7,250 FREEHOLD

This property has recently been completely overhauled and is now in sound condition except for a few small

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CHARMING MODERNISED FARMHOUSE heating, Garage,

FREEHOLD £6,950 d Street, London.

#### WANTED URGENTLY IN HANTS

Within 55 miles of London.

100 ACRE RESIDENTIAL FARM, ON CHALK

QUEEN ANNE OR GEORGIAN HOUSE (not necessarily modernised).

7-8 bedrooms, etc. Buildings and cottage(s).

#### UP TO £15,000

Alternatively, as a temporary measure, a Period Cottage, 3 bedrooms, etc. with STABLE, GARAGE AND PADDOCK

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2861

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Telegrams:

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WANTED

WANTED

USUAL COMMISSION REQUIRED

SOUTH OF LINE READING-PORLOCK. Wanted to buy, COUNTRY HOUSE OF SOME CHARACTER. 6-4 hedrooms, 2-3 bath, 3 reception, modern conveniences, Outbuildings, Farmery liked but not essential. 8-100 acres. "Sir J."

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NEAR WOKING, SURREY

Close main line station. Wahin a short walk of golf course and extensive common flux route passes. South aspect.

PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE. 5 bettrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms

TURESQUE MODERN MODERN PROPERTY OF A STATE OF THE SECOND STATE OF THE SECOND SECOND STATE OF THE SECOND SECOND STATE OF THE SECOND SECO

SUSSEX

Beautiful position overlooking ASRIJOW'N FOREST 5 miles East Grinstead.

DELIGHTFUL HOUSE OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER, designed by
Lutyeus, in excellent order, and labour saving. Hall, 3 reception, 2 bath., 5 bedrooms (h. and e.). Main electricity and water. Radiators throughout. Charming
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REASONABLE PRICE.

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Sca-country resort. Enjoying views over buy, sea and cliffs.

DELIGHTFUL MODERN HOUSE. 2-3 beds., bath., 2 reception, cloaks, excellent kitchen. Dual H.W. Main electricity and water. Pleasant garden.

Inspected and recommended by TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Andley Street. W.I.

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Reautiful southern aspect, extensive views, close to well known golf course, mile station (40 minutes London).

FIRST-CLASS HOUSE OF CHARACTER in excellent order, and with modern central heating, all main services, polished oak floors. Lounge 42 ft. by 26 ft., 3 other reception, 11 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, complete domestic offices, Garages for 5, stabling. Lodge. Superior cottage.

Charming grounds, swimming nool, Yew hedges, kitchen garden, spinney and pasture.

18 ACRES. VERY MODERATE PRICE FREEHOLD

SURREY-SUSSEX BORDER

ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE (part dating from early 18th century). ion, 2 bath., 4 main bed. (3 h. and c.), dressing room kitchen, bathroom, 2 bed.). Main electricity and water Telephone. FINE OLD BARN (suitable billiards Garage. Beautifully disposed gardens of about 2 ACRES, comprising wide spreading lawns, variety of flowering and other trees, rock and rose gardens, etc.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (30,659)

16, ARCADE STREET, IPSWICH Ipswich 4334

### WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET, HANOVER SQUARE, W.I. MAYfair 5411

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Easy run Bury St. Edmunds and Newmarket. Buses daily.

WELL APPOINTED AND FULLY MODERNISED CHARACTER RESIDENCE IN THE GEORGIAN MANNER ON TWO FLOORS ONLY



Cloaks, 3 spacious recep-tion, maids' sitting room, convenient kitchen (Agas) 6 good bedrooms and dressing room (all but one with basin h, and c.) 3 montern bathroums. Mains electricity and water Central heating. Tele-phone Garage (2.3 cars). The whole tastefully decor-ated and in first-class order

In pleasantly wooded, easy to maintain grounds, with small lake, S ACRES in all.

FOR SALE WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Strongly recommended by I pricech Office

#### HERTS-4 MILES ST. ALBANS

18 miles by fast road to London and & hour St. Paneras.

GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE IN DELIGHTFUL SECLUDED GROUNDS

3 RECEPTION. BILLIARDS. 5 BEDROOMS. 2 RATHROOMS. MAIN SERVICES

OUTBUILDINGS including modern Danish piggery, farrowing pens

IN ALL 81/2 ACRES



PRICE FREEHOLD £8,500 OR OFFER

Inspected and full details of WOODCOCKS, London



### GASCOIGNE-PEES

SURBITON, LEATHERHEAD, DORKING, REIGATE, GUILDFORD, EPSOM



GODSTONE VILLAGE



APPEALING MELLOWED BRICK CRE, FREEHOLD 63,750. SOLE AGENTS Apply 6, Church Street, Reignte (Tel. 4422-3). A MOST IMPRESSIVE HOUSE

recupying a coveled position in lovely Ashtead Park.

Traditional and contemporary designs have been thoughtfully blended in this superbly appointed residence built only 2 years ago. Featuring Traditional and contemporary appointed residence thoughtfully blended in this superbly appointed residence thoughtfully blended in this superbly appointed residence built only 2 years ago. Featuring latest type space CENTRAL HEATING. Delightful 'L' shaped founge with glazed deors opening to diving room, the breaklast your room off the magnificent American style kitchen, 4 bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, luxifious colour tiled bathroom, cloakroom 20-th, brick garage. Attractive bathroom, cloakroom 20-th, brick garage. Attractive bathroom, cloakroom with some natural woodland in all

1 ACRE. PRICE FREEHOLD £7,250

WARM, COMFORTABLE BUNGALOW Semi-cural position between Leatherhead and Bookhat
THIS HARD WINTER has proved the worth of high
editional complete control heating system which to
attractive modern detached longulaw enjoys. 3 don'd
bedrooms (I with basin), nice longing with brick fireplastring room, well-equipped kitchen with the Delightful well stocked garden of OVER 13-ACRE.
FREEHOLD £4,950. Owner going abroad would sell
Apply: 4, Bridge Street, Leatherhead. Tel. 4133-4.

ONE OF THE FINEST MODERN HOUSES IN DORKING



Beautifully built and che heds, modern kitchen bathroom. 2 garages. 1/3-Addelightful garden. FREEHOLD £5,980 or near of Apply. 31. South Street, Dorking (Tel. 4071-2). 5, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.I

GROsvenor 5131 (8 lines)

CURTIS & HENSON

and at 21, HORSEFAIR, BANBURY, OXON

Tel. 3295-6

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7 miles north of Lincoln. Hunting with the Burton, 7 miles from the kennels.

A MOST ATTRACTIVE MINIATURE ESTATE

With fully modernised 18th-century stone-built house

Comprising:

4 RECEPTION ROOMS, MUSIC ROOM, 5 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS. 2 BATHROOMS

GOOD OFFICES WITH AGA



Main water and electricity. Central heating

GARAGE 2-3 CARS. STABLING FOR 4 DELIGHTETT, WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS

SMALL ATTESTED FARMERY

4 SERVICE COTTAGES

IN ALL 37 ACRES

With Vacant Possession

FOR SALE BY AUCTION AS A WHOLE OR IN LOTS (unless previously sold) by

CURTIS & HENSON, as above in conjunction with GEO, TINSLEY & LAVERACK, On 20th April next.

#### HAMPSHIRE SURREY BORDER

Retween Farnham and Fleet. Fast trains to London in under the hour.

COMFORTABLE AND LABOUR-SAVING HOUSE.

nly, exceptionally well modernised and completely secluded.



comprising reception hall, cloakroom, 25-ft drawing room, duning room, study, kitchen/breakfast room, (Aga), 4 main bedrooms and bathroom; self-con-tained staff suite of 2 bed-rooms and bathroom.

Main water, gas and elec-tricity. Central heating practically throughout

DOUBLE GARAGE

Beautifully laid out gar-dens requiring minimum of

ABOUT 21/2 ACRES

PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above

#### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CHILTERNS

Between Wendover and Princes Risborough, in unspoilt country, high up with pan oramic views over the Vale of Ayleshury.

WHITE RENDERED MODERN HOUSE OF ATTRACTIVE DESIGN



comprising spacious recep-tion ball. 3 the reception rooms, garden rooms, breakfast room or nursery kitchen quarters. 5 hedrooms (all with bas-ius), 2 bathrooms, 3 attic-rooms above (ideal as-playroom), 2 self-contained flats.

GARAGE
Main electricity, Main
water available
Central heating.

Delightful well-maintained terraced garden and nat-ural woodland

ABOUT 31/2 ACRES. PRICE £8,250 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: CLRTIS & HENSON, as above

#### NEW FOREST

In the small unspoilt village of Minstead, 24 miles fro

CHARMING OLD HOUSE OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER

Formerly a Rectory

In secluded position overlooking open country

Containing Entrance hall, 27 ft drawing room, study, dining room, cloakroom, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms,

Kitchen with Esse.

Gil-fired central heating.

Main water and electricity

GARAGE BLOCK

ABOUT 21/2 ACRES



PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above

#### SUSSEX-NEAR HEATHFIELD

WELL-APPOINTED FAMILY HOUSE OF MEDIUM SIZE IN EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD ORDER THROUGHOUT

Comprising fine galleried duning hall, 2 other spacious reception rooms, cloak-room, spacious kitchen, breakfast room, 6 bed side playroom with cloak

GARAGEANDSTABLES

Attractive gardens with tennis court, kitchen gar-den and paddock.

ABOUT 41/2 ACRES



PRICE £6,950 FREEHOLD

Further 14 acres of pasture and woodland available if required.

Agents: CERTIS & HENSON, as above.

#### WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING (Tel: Reading 54018 and 54019)

BERKS & OXON. Bordering unspoilt village



#### 17th-CENTURY HOUSE

with few but spacious fooms, Galleried hall, cloaks, 3 main and 2 sec-ondary bedrooms, bath.

Main services. Aga. GARAGE 2 CARS

Pretty garden and orchard Sale wanted before Auction in May next

£3,250 NORTH BUCKS (50 miles London) don), Stone-built character COT-good kitchen, 3 bedrooms (princi-reices, Aga cooker, Garage, Also AGE RESIDENCE, 2 reception, good sins), modern bathroom. Main service ttage. Enclosed garden. FREEHOLD.

£4,000 GLOS COTSWOLDS. Stone-built STONE-TILED HOUSE. Fine electricity. Part central heating. 2 garages 2/y ACRES. FREEHOLD.

### CROWE, BATES & WEEKES BRIDGE STREET and 183, HIGH STREET, GUILDFORD (Tels. 5137 and 2864-5), and at CRANLEIGH (Tel. 200)

#### SURREY-SUSSEX BORDERS

A SMALL PROPERTY OF REAL CHARM AND CHARACTER

In a perfect setting, Beautifully planned and appointed. Close to village, Church, omnibuses and station.

Entrance half and cleak-room, 3 reception rooms Kitchen with Aga. 3 hed-rooms (2 h. & c.). Boxroom.

Central heating through-out Main electricity and water.

Brick garage and useful



Garden and paddock of ABOUT 2 ACRES. More land availal

#### WEST SURREY. 3 MILES FAST LONDON TRAINS

PRETTY VILLAGE TUDOR HOUSE in old-world garden. Fascinating period features and modern comfort. 2-3 reception, 3 bedrooms. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. Guildford Office.

23, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

## WILSON & CO.

MAPLES

IN A SURREY VILLAGE CHARMING REGENCY HOUSE

Tomiles N. W. London. Waterloo 30 mins. 7 beds., 2 baths., ball. 3 good reception. Mains, central beating. Garage, lovely matured gardens adjoining farmland.

£6,750 FREEHOLD WITH 11/2 ACRES

IN UNSPOILT HERTS VILLAGE Between Hatfield and Hitchin; 35 minutes London.

A CHARMING OLD VILLAGE HOUSE IN THE
EARLY GEORGIAN STYLE.

7 beds., 2 baths., 4 reception. Central heating. Mains Coftage, garage and stabling block. Charming garden

ONLY £6,000 FREEHOLD WITH 5 ACRES

hour London doze to Bell LOVELY MELLOWED TUDOR HOUSE

Galleried music room, 3 reception, 5 beds., 2 modern baths., luxury kitchen with Aga, mains, central heating. Garage, pathlocks

FREEHOLD WITH OVER 5 ACRES

RURAL MID-SUSSEX

Enjoying locely views. Lewes 8 miles, Haywards Heath 12 miles, Easy reach of coast.



LOVELY EARLY TUDOR MANOR HOUSE

FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 41/2 ACRES

FINEST POSITION IN SURREY

32 minutes London, overlooking large estates, magnificent south views, unique situation outskirts of pretty village near

A CHARMING STONE BUILT HOUSE

Completely modernised with large rooms in the Georgian style. 7 beds., 3 baths., 3 reception. Oil-fired heating. Mains. 2 garages.

FOR SALE WITH 3 ACRES

HANTS, EASY REACH PETERSFIELD CHARMING CHARACTER HOUSE

in sporting part of the county, 6 beds., 3 baths., 3 reception. Oil-fired heating. SECONDARY HOME. Picturesque cottage. Good buildings. OVER 80 ACRES with SMALL FARMERY

£13,500 FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

A MELLOWED SMALL QUEEN ANNE HOUSE £5,950

Kent/Sussex borders, Ideal for retirement. Near sea and golf. 5 heds. (basins), 2 baths., 3 reception. Central heating. Nearly 21/2 ACRES.

EXCELLENT ORDER

MAPLE & CO.

BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1 ESTATE OFFICES, 5, GRAFTON STREET, Tel. HYDE PARK 4685

CHURCH CROOKHAM, HANTS ASCOT HEATH, BERKS

> GENTLEMAN'S IMPOSING RESIDENCE with stating and a loose coars.
>
> 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, ball with cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices with maid's sitting room.

Central heating Garage for 3 cars. FLAT AND COTTAGE 21/2 ACRES with hard tennis court. £7,500

MAPLE & Co. LTD. HYDe Park 4685 ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A HERTFORDSHIRE MARKET TOWN FASCINATING QUEEN ANNE COTTAGE

Secluded position on riverside with excellent trout fishing 2-3 bedrooms, diging hall, drawing room, bathroom, modern kitchen

1 ACRE. £4,500 FREEHOLD MAPLE & CO. LTD. HYDe Park 468

CROWHURST, nr. BATTLE, SUSSEX



COMPACT COUNTRY RESIDENCE carefully maintained and modernised. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, hall det and modernised. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, hall kroom, lounge, sun loggia, dining room, summer odern kitchen, breakfast room. Central heading at. GARAGE for 3. TIMBER COTTAGE 2½ ACRES. £6,250 FREEHOLD MAPLE & CO. LTD. HYDE Park 4685.

20, HIGH STREET, HASLEMERE, Tel. 1207-8

## AVERSTOCK & SON

4. CASTLE STREET, FARNHAM, Tel. 5274-5.

SOUTH OF HOG'S BACK

2 staff bedrooms.

LOVELY QUEEN ANNE HOUSE



BEAUTIFULLY MODERNISED HOUSE. IS

bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, atral heating

21/2 ACRES FREEHOLD £7,500

"LYDLING." SHACKLEFORD

Large hall, 3 reception rooms, Aga, 4 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms (6 basins), bathroom,

DOUBLE GARAGE

Main services.

Easily run gardens, about 1 ACRE.

FOR BALE BY AUCTION IN APRIL UNLESS PREVIOUSLY SOLD BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS

SURREY—HAMPSHIRE BORDER

Between Farnham and Odiham, close to station (electric to Wat

MODERNARCHITECT DESIGNED HOUSE in delightful woodland set

ting.

3 bedrooms, bathroom 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen. Main water and electricity, modern drainage.

Woodland garden, about 1 ACRE.



PRICE £4,250 FREEHOLD. Farnham Office.

N VILLAGE, NEAR FARNHAM, SURREY. Convenient position within few minutes of huses, etc. The Major Part of a Country House of Character,

es of buses, etc. The converted. Full sout k. 4 bedrooms, bath FREEHOLD £4,850, WITH POSSESSION. Farnhan

4, HIGH STREET, ALTON, HANTS Tel. Alton 2261-2

#### HAMPSHIRE

Amidst famed National Trust Country.

Amidet famed National Trust Country.

WILLIAM AND MARY MANOR HOUSE with Regency additions.

In unspelable position.

4 reception rooms, 9 principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, domestic offices with Aga. Computy's water and electricity. Delightful walled gardens and paddock.

ABOUT 5 ACRES

COTTAGE AND HUNTER STABLING

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

#### NORTH HAMPSHIRE

In delightful country surroundings close to unspoilt village
Main line station 3 miles.

Main line station 3 miles.

CHARMING OLD RECTORY well modernised and in good order.

3 reception rooms, 4-5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen with Ease cooker, Janitor boiler. Staff flat, 3 rooms. Company's water and electricity. Ventral heating. Excelent stabling and garage, etc.

Pleasant gardens and paddock, IN ALL ABOUT 8 ACRES.

VACANT POSSESSION

## **CURTIS & WATSON**

HAMPSHIRE THE OLD MANOR HOUSE, ROPLEY



CHARMING 17th-CENTURY RESIDENCE loose box. Partly walled gardens, and paddock. In all 114 ACRES.

ucater. Company's electricity. Modern drainage.
VACANT POSSESSION
Offers invited prior to Sale by Auction.

The Estate Offices, HARTLEY WINTNEY
Tel. Hartley Wintney 296-7

#### NORTH HAMPSHIRE

CHARMING COUNTRY RESIDENCE

in first-class order.

3 reception rooms, cloakroom, modern kitchen, 5 principal bedrooms with 2 bathrooms. Guest/staff wing, 2 bedrooms Company's electricity and water. Modern drainage.

Low Burney and water. Modern drainage.

DOUBLE GARAGE. GOOD OUTBUILDINGS

The whole extends to about 30 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION

NEAR BASINGSTOKE

SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSE

Situated in a park. Lease of 1,000-acre shoot might be transferred.

4 reception rooms, 4 principal bedrooms, 3 second bedrooms, 2 bathrooms; 3-roomed flat.

Company's water and electricity.

Farmery and cottage. Lovely gardens. Pastureland, in all about 451/2 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION

## JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

AUCTION NOTICE

#### CRIPPENDEN MANOR, COWDEN, KENT

A LOVELY MANOR HOUSE OF THE EARLY 17th CENTURY



thoroughly modernised, but retaining its Feriod features, with a FIRST-CLASS ATTESTED STOCK FARM Hall, diming room, oak panelled sitting room, study, playroom, 5 principal hedrooms and dressing room (with basins), 2 staff bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Complete central hedroom, a betroid with the staff of the s

ABOUT 190 ACRES

WITH POSSESSION FREEHOLD TAX ALLOWANCES OF £7,000

AUCTION JUNE 6 AT EDENBRIDGE Solicitors: DRUCES & ATTLEE, 82, King William Street, E.C.4

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#### EAST SUSSEX

70 MINUTES TO CANNON STREET (MAIN LINE STATION UNDER HALF A MILE)

#### STONE BUILT 17th-CENTURY MANOR HOUSE

of exceptional distinction, with high ceilings and large windows, beautifully sited facing South with delightful views over a valley.



#### TO BE SOLD WITH 86 ACRES

Fine oak-panelled sitting hall and 3 reception rooms, very compact domestic quarters. 4 suites of bedrooms and bathroom plus 2 dressing rooms or single bedrooms, 3 staff rooms and bathroom. Main elsetricity and rater. Central heating from modern, self-stoking boiler.

Lovely terraced gardens on South slope, hard tennis court, swimming pool, timbered drive with good fodge.

GARAGE WITH FLAT OVER e property is bounded by a river which ovides fishing including an occasional trout.

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT



FREEHOLD FOR SALE AT A GENUINE REASONABLE PRICE IN CONSEQUENCE OF A DEATH

Full particulars from Owners' Sole Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (H.30,340)

AUCTION NOTICE

#### WEST SURREY

#### SMITHBROOK MANOR, CRANLEIGH

LOT 1. ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL DAIRY FARM

MODERNISED PERIOD FARM HOUSE

2-3 reception rooms, study, cloaks, kitchen with Aga. 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main services. Central heating.

Double garage.



Model T.T. buildings with standings for 17, etc. Productive land in ring fence. ABOUT 75 ACRES

LOT 2. MODERNISED PERIOD COTTAGE WITH 1/2 ACRE

AUCTION AT QUILDFORD, MAY &

Joint Auctioneers: MESSENGER, MORGAN & MAY, 8, Quarry Street, Quildford (Tel. 2992), and JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.
(J.23,087)

#### WITH PRIVATE GATE TO WENTWORTH GOLF COURSE SURREY

ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

WITH HALL, STUDY, DINING ROOM, DRAWING ROOM, 6 BEDROOMS (WITH BASINS), 2 BATHROOMS

> 2 GARAGES Central heating. Main services.

GARDEN WITH HARD TENNIS COURT SWIMMING POOL

ABOUT 3 ACRES

With site for another house.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Agenta: JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (J.23,067)

#### CHARMING TUDOR HOUSE



FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

FREEHOLD WITH POBBLOOK.
PRICE £7,500
(Reasonable offers will be considered.)
Recommended by the Agents: JOHN D. WOOD AND CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.
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#### WANTED TO PURCHASE

WITHIN 40-50 MILES OF LONDON

South of the main line Paddington-Hungerford, and

PREFERABLY IN EAST HAMPSHIRE OR WEST SUSSEX

A WELL-EQUIPPED HOUSE OF GEORGIAN OR SIMILAR CHARACTER

containing 8-10-12 BEDROOMS, TOGETHER WITH 100-300 ACRES FOR DAIRY FARMING

APPROXIMATELY £40,000 AVAILABLE FOR SUITABLE PROPERTY

No hurry for possession.

Brief particulars and, if possible, photographs, please, to "Mrs. E.", care of JOHN D. WOOD AND CO. (Ref. II), who will immediately inspect any promising property.

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23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
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SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1 (Entrance in Sackville Street)

## . MERCER &

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY HOUSES

REGent 2482 2295

#### BETWEEN HENLEY AND OXFORD

49 MILES LONDON

Fringe of the pretty village of Dorchester



A nice style of modern house with few but spacious rooms. 3 receptions, 4 bedrooms, dressing room or fifth bedroom, bathroom.

bedroom, batteroom.

Main water, electric light
and power. Partial central
heating. Rayburn cooker
and water heater.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Long drive approach through avenue of limes. Pleasant garden plus large paddock with numerous useful buildings, including modern piggery.

DIDCOT 6 MILES, OXFORD 10 READING 20 £5,750 WITH 31/2 ACRES

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

#### A "VILLAGE HOUSE" NEAR THE SUSSEX COAST

Helween Hawkhurst and Rye. London 56 miles.

WILL MAKE STRONG APPEAL TO THOSE FOND OF COUNTRY
VILLAGE LIFE



Buses and London coaches pass. Shops almost oppo-site, R.C. church 2 miles.

A sociable community.
Partly about 250 years
old and having a lot of
charm.

3 receptions, 4 or 5 hed-rooms (basins in two), bathroom.

Partial central heating.
Main services
GARAGE

Pretty, secluded garden at the rear profusely tim-bered. Roadside position.

miles Rye Golf Links Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

#### SEVENOAKS, KENT

CHARMING PERIOD HOUSE OF DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER Possessing extremely nice rooms with many unusual features.

Suite of 3 reception rooms with parquet floors, 6 or 7 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main services. Double garage, play room. Stable with loose box and 2 stalls.

ATTRACTIVE COTTAGE Well laid out gardens and small paddock,

ABOUT 1 ACRE. PRICE FREEHOLD £7,950

#### SUPERB POSITION ON A SURREY GOLF COURSE IN ONE OF THE MOST FAVOURED LOCALITIES WITHIN 20 MILES OF LONDON

PERFECTLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER. Rull of the finest materials and having an extremely bright and sunny interior. Magnificent Licings Hall Ideal for outerfaining purposes. 2 other reception rooms, 5 principal beforems with fitted basins, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 3 secondary beforems and third bathroom convertible to flat. Central heating. Main services, Garage, Delightful inexpensive gardens with choice variety of flowering and evergrees shrules.

ABOUT 2 ACRES. PRIVATELY FOR SALE.

#### RESIDENTIAL FARM IN THE WEALD OF KENT

9 miles Ashford-Maidstone-Tenterden.

40 ACRES

Mostly pasture, in ring fence and well watered by river and stream with excellent coarse fishing.

Most picturesque modernised 16th-century house.

2 sitting rooms, spacious kitchen, 4 good bedrooms, bathroom. Esse cooker.

Main water, electric light and power.

Ample range of T.T. and attested buildings.

45 MILES FROM LONDON AND 20 FROM THE COAST FOR SALE AT £7,850

Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

## OXFORDSHIRE, SOUND VALUE FOR £4,500

CONVENIENT FOR BURFORD, BANBURY AND OXFORD 1 mile Chinning Norton

High and healthy location, surrounded by farmland.

Ideal Autocrat boiler, Main services, Woodblock flooring.

ALL ON TWO FLOORS. GARAGE Long drive approach (buses pass entrance).



out garden about 1 ACRE

JUST AVAILABLE FOR SALE Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

#### IN A BEAUTIFUL PART OF SURREY BETWEEN GUILDFORD AND CRANLEIGH IMMEDIATELY ADJOIN-ING THOUSANDS OF ACRES OF CROWN LAND

Only 10 minutes by car from main line station to Waterloo 40 minutes ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE IN THE SURREY FARMHOUSE STYLE Lounge hall, 2 or 3 reception rooms (one 23 ft. 9 ins. by 20 ft.), 5 or 6 bedrooms dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Complete central heating. Mains. Double garage SUPERIOR COTTAGE IN IMMACULATE ORDER.

Delightful gardens nearly 1 ACRE.

PRIVATELY FOR SALE

#### OCCUPYING ONE OF THE MOST COVETED POSITIONS IN THE FAVOURITE TUNBRIDGE WELLS AREA

Standing on high ground approached from an avenue of great charm about one mile from Tunbridge Welle Central Station with frequent trains to London 50 minutes, MODERN RESIDENCE OF CHARMING DESIGN in the Sussex Farmhouse style of architecture. Recently the subject of considerable expenditure. Oak panelled entrance hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms with oak strip floors, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4ll main services. Electric radiators, Sphendid garage, Delightful secluded garden forming an ideal setting, about 1 ACRE.

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,950

A perfect small luxury home ready to walk into

#### WM. DEAN & CO.

33 WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND

Tel. Sunderland 57691

#### UPPER-NIDDERDALE, NR. HARROGATE

MODERN RESIDENCE

in beautiful garden near to moors.



5 bedrooms (all fitted with basins it and c.), 2 recep-tion rooms and loggia. Oak doors and lounge fire place by Thompson of Kilburn.

Main services. Central heating.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Garden with fine azaleas and rhododemirons, rock garden, paddock and stream.

5 ACRES

FREEHOLD

Agenta: WM, DEAN & Co., 33, West Sunniside, Sunderland (Tel. Sunderland 57091).

#### GOODMAN & MANN SURREY AND LONDON

LADY'S SURREY VILLAGE HOUSE



ow cuaracter house in most sought after village (1 mile Central heating by Aga, Pastel decor, Wardrobes and lounge (22 ft. by 18 ft.), dining room, kitchen with tyarhous bathroom, Garage and redding Division. A central masses.

station. Waterloo 30 mins.). Central masses.

basins. Oak panelled hall, lounge (22 ft. by 18 ft.), dining room, and behavior. Oak panelled hall, lounge (22 ft. by 18 ft.), dining room, and secluded midd's room, 4 bedroom, bivarious bathroom. Garage, Lougia, Small secluded midd's room, 4 bedroom, bivarious bathroom. Garage Lougia, Small secluded walled garden. A FEAL GEV A T A SUBSTANTIAL BUT REASONABLE FIGURE

First advertisement by Sole Agents: 33, High Street, Cobham, Surrey.

Cobham 3058-9.

Tel. (3 lines) **GROsvenor 3121** 

## WINKWORTH & CO.

48. CURZON STREET LONDON, W.1

#### NEAR THE HANTS COAST

With extensive sea views. Near to good yachting centre. Main line station 4 miles

#### A CHARMING QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE



7 BEDROOMS.
3 BATHROOMS.
4 RECEPTION ROOMS
AND DOMESTIC
OFFICES.
on 2 floors only. dished floors, Central iting, All main services

GARAGES EXCELLENT COTTAGE

PRICE £12.000 WITH 12 ACRES

WINEWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1. (GRO, 3121).

#### KENT

Near a picturesque village. London 11 hours by rail.

#### A DELIGHTFUL HALF-TIMBERED RESIDENCE

6 BEDROOMS 2 BATHROOMS NURSERY AND STAFF ROOMS. 3 RECEPTION ROOMS

Main electricity and

GARAGE

Lovely grounds with kitchen garden and parkland.



12 ACRES PRICE (10.250

Inspected by Wiskworth & Co. 48, Curron Street, W.1 (GRO, 3121)

## GRAVES, SON & PILCHER

#### THE MANOR HOUSE, HIGH STEEET, LINDFIELD, SUSSEX



PRONT ELEVATIO

#### A DIGNIFIED AND DISTINCTIVE RESIDENCE

situated in this lovely old village. Haywards Heath main line vailway station (London 45 mins) | mile away

HALL, CLOAKROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 4 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS, 5 SECONDARY BED-ROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, GOOD DOMESTIC OFFICES

STAFF FLAT.

2 GARAGES.

Attractive and well maintained walled garden.



BACK RESTATION

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION AT AN EARLY DATE UNLESS PREVIOUSLY SOLD

Full details from the Auctioneers as above,

7. BROAD STREET, WOKINGHAM (Tel. 777-8 and 63)

## MARTIN & POLE

Also at READING (Tel. 50266) CAVERSHAM (Tel. Reading 72877) HIGH WYCOMBE (Tel. 847)

#### "SENNAR." CHESTNUT AVENUE. WOKINGHAM AN OUTSTANDINGLY SUPERIOR DETACHED BUNGALOW

Constructed only a few months ago to the special requirements of the Of brick construction with pink rendered walls and red toning roof, all lavishly equipped and in immaculate order throughout.

Commanding open views from the rear across adjoining farmlands and only just over one mile from the centre of this charming old world Berkshire market lown with its main-line station to Waterloo (1 hour).

2 well-fitted bedrooms, superbly equipped half-tiled bathroom, entrance half with cloak cupboard, delightful lounge and sumptuously equipped kitchen with small dining alcove. Brick-built garage and fuel stores.

SITE ABOUT 250 ft. by 60 ft. WITH GRAVELLED DRIVE-IN.

FREEHOLD UNEXPECTEDLY AVAILABLE FOR SALE BY AUCTION AT AN EARLY DATE (unless previously sold).

Highly recommended by the Sole Agents and Auctioneers Martin & Pole Wokingham.

#### A SUPERIOR WELL EQUIPPED MODERNIDETACHED HOUSE IN A GOOD RESIDENTIAL AREA

Under one mile from the centre of Wakingham and close to a frequent hus service, bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen, brick-bullt garage and well-stocked garden with greenhouse.

ALL MAIN SERVICES

PRICE £3,700 FREEHOLD OR NEAR OFFER

Sole Agents: Wokingham Office,

#### WOKINGHAM

AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE MODERN DETACHED BRICK-BUILT HOUSE

Situated in a good residential area about one mile from the centre of the town with buses passing the door.

3 bedrooms, half-tiled bathroom, through lounge about 18 ft, long, dining room, beakroom, spacious kitchen, brick-built garage, attractively designed garden of over 1/3 ACRE.

ALL MAIN SERVICES

PRICE £3,850 FREEHOLD

Recommended by Wokingham Office.

DORKING (Tel. 2212) EFFINGHAM (Tel. Bookham 2801) BOOKHAM (Tel. 2744)

#### SUPERIOR DEVELOPMENT IN PICTURESQUE SETTING

ATTRACTIVE, DETACHED AND WELL-PLANNED BUNGALOWS

(3 hed., bath., 2 rec., usual offices. Garage. £3,950) and

HOUSES

(3 or 4 bed., bath., 2 rec., usual offices, £3,950-£4,650)

ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES

Inspection strongly recommended.

CUBITT & WEST, Farnham Office. (OX 3706)

### CUBITT & WEST

WITLEY-SURREY THE MOUNT EXCELLENT DETACHED RESIDENCE



Garden of 1 ACRE.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY OR AUCTION LATER
CURITY & WEST, Haslemere Office. (H.

#### **EFFINGHAM**

On high ground close village,

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED BUNGALOW in course of erection. Well situated on main road yet facing golf course and with excellent views. Lounge-dining room, 3 beds, kit, bathroom, sep. we. Excellent site with good frontage. Main services. Cesspool drainage.

PRICE £4,550. FREEHOLD

CURITY & WEST, Effingham Office,

(EX.88)

HASLEMERE (Tel. 686) FARNHAM (Tel. 5261) HINDHEAD (Tel. 63)

#### GREAT BOOKHAM

Well seeluded in garden with 190 ft. frontage

WELL-BUILT DETACHED MODERN COTTAGE-STYLE MOUSE with very attactive elevation. Con-venient shops and station and in excellent setting. 2-4 beds., 2-3 reception, kitchen, bathroom, loggia, Garage. Main services. Easily maintained garden of 1/3 ACRE

### PRICE £4,650 FREEHOLD

CUBITT & WEST, Bookham Office.

(B.4117)

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.I.

## STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN

#### SANDHAYES, CORSLEY, NEAR WARMINSTER

About 400 feet above sea level. Sunny aspects. Greensand soil, 4 miles Westbury Junction (12 hours to and from Paddington by frequent express trains).

PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £7,000



Accommodation: Hall and 4 sitting rooms, 8 bed-rooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, excellent offices. Main electricity and power. Central heating by radiators. Septic lank drawage, Main water. Inde-pendent hot water system.

Garage, Stabling 2 bungalow cottages.

Well-timbered gardens and grounds, including orchard, kitchen garden and paddocks of a total area of nearly 81/2 ACRES

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents: STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSES, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1.

#### DEVON

In a first-rate district for fishing 630 feel above sea level. Really glorious views

GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE IN EXCELLENT ORDER



Entrance hall, 3 spacious reception rooms, cloak-room, modern domestic offices, Aga, Agamatic boiler, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom,

Electricity, Ample water. Central heating, Cesspool drainage.

Stabling and garage

Lodge. Easy garden, part walled garden

About 6 ACRES including paddock PRICE FREEHOLD £5,500

Inspected and recommended by Owner's Sole Agents: STYLES, WHITLUCK AND PETERSES, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.L. (L.R.27,349)

#### SALMON AND TROUT FISHING IN RIVER WYE

Plus one mile of troat fishing in tributary, and shooting rights over 500 ACRES

FOR SALE, WITH VACANT POSSESSION THIS WELL-APPOINTED AND MODERNISED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Situated in one of the finest eporting districts of the western part of the kingdom, consenient for access to Midland centres. Accommodation: Lounge hall and 3 sitting rooms, 6 bed, and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, Staff flat, Main electricity, Central heating, Garage for 4.



A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 32 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £8,500

A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 32 ACTUAL (NOTE.—The fishing in the Wye includes 5 good pools.)

For further information apply to the Joint Sole Agents: STYLES, WHITLOCK AND PETERSEN, 44. St. James's Place, S.W.I. and Messrs. Campbell & Edwards, Llandrindod Wells (Tel. 2245), both of whom have inspected and thoroughly recommend the property. (L.R.22.081)

#### SOUTH-WESTERN ENGLAND

DAIRY AND STOCK FARM OF ABOUT 132 ACRES VACANT POSSESSION

Situated in one of the most-sought-after districts in the country and where almost all forms of rural pursuits are readily obtainable. Near village, railway station and bus service.

THE RESIDENCE (about 100 years old) is in centre of farm, and approached by good drive and commands nice views.

It contains: 2 sitting rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity. Gravity water supply. Septic tank drainage. Telephone. Aga cooker. Separate hot water system.

MODERN AND SUBSTANTIAL FARM BUILDINGS (T.T.), including cowhouse for 32. DAIRY, BARNS, STABLING, FORAGE PIG HOUSES All with electric light and power

COTTAGE WITH MAIN SERVICES AND EXCELLENT GARDEN

PRICE FREEHOLD £15,000 WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents: STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1, (L.R,27,919)

WINCHESTER FLEET FARNBOROUGH

## **ALFRED PEARSON & SON**

HARTLEY WINTNEY ALDERSHOT ALRESFORD

WEST SURREY. (LONDON 42 MILES)
MOST CHARMING SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE



bute seclusion. Glorious views over farmland for miles around. 4 principal toms, 2 bathrooms, lounge hall, drawing room (35 ft. long), dlining room, room, study. Staff quarters with own bathroom. Central heating. Double w. 25 acres with lake. Detached cottage. £11,500 FREEHOLD Aldershot Office (Tel. 17).

#### MAIN ROAD HOUSE REQUIRED

Within easy reach of a station with good train service to London

5-6 bedrooms are needed and there should be at least 2 acres of land.

No objection to a Victorian house if modernised and in good condition.

Ref. MA.

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

#### A SMALL VILLAGE HOUSE IN HAMPSHIRE

3 bedrooms, bathroom, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, etc., suitable for business use if necessary.

Also included are the two adjoining properties both let and producing over £100 per annum.

Offers for the house alone would be considered. Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

"ST. DAVIDS"

### LITTLE THURLOW, SUFFOLK

ATTRACTIVE HALF-TIMBERED HOUSE, circa 1520

Situated in a delightful Suffolk village on the borders of Essex-Cambridge



10 miles Newmarket. 10 miles Newmarket, 10 miles Bury St. Edmunds 20 miles Cambridge (60-minute service Liver-pool Street), 50 miles Landon,

Drawing room, dining hall, breakfast room, kitchen, etc., 3 spacious bedrooms, bathroom, w.c.

OUTBUILDINGS Charming walled garden,

FREEHOLD £3,350 OR OFFER. IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Further details

P. T. RAKE, AT "ST. DAVIDS" OR THURLOW 236

115, SOUTH ROAD, HAYWARDS HEATH DAY & SONS (Tel. 1580)

And at BRIGHTON AND HOVE

#### WEST SUSSEX

About 10 minutes' walk of the sea and shops, and 11 miles main electric line station

CHARMING PERIOD RESIDENCE

with original oak timbering. 5 BEDROOMS. 2 BATHROOMS. 4 RECEPTION ROOMS. CLOAKROOM,

GARAGE Delightful garden. Summer house with thatched roof.



PRICE £6.500 FREEHOLD

Illustrated particulars from the Agents, as above

## FOX & SONS

BRIGHTON WORTHING

#### HORSHAM

Occupying a delightful rural positi of the town and standing well back

AN ATTRACTIVE DETACHED TUDOR-STYLE RESIDENCE



Carefully modernised and on one floor only.

5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms magnificent lounge (30 ft by 20 ft.), dining room kitchen.

Main electricity and water Modern drainage.

4 LOOSE BOXES LARGE GARAGE

Garden room. Delightful garden and grounds with ornamental lake and pad-dock in all about 6 ACRES

FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road Bridge (Tel. Hove 30201, 7 lines).

#### MID-SUSSEX

In completely rural surroundings with fine views to the South Downs, yet only a few minutes' walk from a main line station. Haywards Heath 5 miles, Lewes 7 miles, Brighton 14 miles.

AN EXCELLENT GRASS FARM WITH AN ATTRACTIVE PERIOD FARMHOUSE



5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, cloak-room, maid's room, kitchen.

Main electricity and water.

Garage for 2 cars. Garden room. Greenhouse

MODERN COTTAGE

Good modern farm buildings, including large modern barn, covered stock yard, standings for 14 cows, loose boxes, Dutch barn, etc.

ent enclosures and extends to about THE LAND, which is mainly grass.

IE LAND, which is mainly grass, is in convenient energy and in the second secon

#### HAMPSHIRE

ews over the beautiful Avan On the edge of the New Forest.

PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE BUILT TO DESIGN OF WELL-KNOWN ARCHITECT



6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fine lounge 34 ft. 3 in. by 19 ft. 6 in., dining room, study, lounge hall, cloak-room, staff sitting room, kitchen and offices.

Main electricity, gas and

GOOD GARAGE

OUTBUILDINGS

Inexpensive gardens and grounds, meadow land

ABOUT 11 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION. PRICE £7,000 FREEHOLD

#### CLOSE TO LYNDHURST

all village. Suitable for

FREEHOLD COUNTRY RESIDENCE



With oil-fired central heating.

bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, cloak-room, double lounge, 2 other reception rooms, domestic offices,

Main services.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS STORE BUILDINGS

Garden and grounds of about 31/2 ACRES

PRICE £5,850 FREEHOLD

Band Nouthampton (Tel. 25155, 4 lines). Fox & Sons, 32 L

CORNWALL

Plymouth with 4½ hours non-stop uton. 12 miles main line station at Lisk



se Plymouth with 44 hours non-stop condom.

Situated within a few yards of the sea with unexcelled and uninter-rupted view of magnificent coastal scenery overlooking a picturesque fishing village.

BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE BUILT BY AN ARCHITECT FOR HIS OWN 4 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge (33 ft, by 27 ft.), dining room, hall and cloakroom, excellent kitchen, guest suite with a room and large bathroom.

ANN SERVICES
Easily maintained terraced garden of about 1 ACRE PRICE 27,850

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Koad, Bournemouth (Tel. 6300).

#### OVERLOOKING SOUTHAMPTON WATER

MODERN CHARACTER RESIDENCE

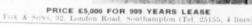
In excellent decorative order

4 bedrooms, dressing room, half-tiled bathroom, 2 inter-communicating re-ception rooms, study, cloakroom, kitchen and offices.

BRICK GARAGE

Partial central heating Main electricity and water

Easily maintained garden.



PICTURESQUE PERIOD RESIDENCE ENJOYING DELIGHTFUL VIEWS WEST SUSSEX

upying a delightful setting in the face off an omnibus route and about 3 m direct London train service oured residential district of West Chillington, ides from Pulhorough Station, with excellent e. Worthing about 104 miles.

An exceptionally attractive old-world Farmhouse Residence reputed to be about 400 years old, containing a profusion of oak beams and modernised throughout.

3 bedrooms (h. and c.), well-fitted modern bath-room, 2 delightful recep-tion rooms, labour-saving kitchen.

Main electricity and power Company's water Cesspool drainage.



Good range of outbuildings The easily maintained garden with about 1 ACRE PRICE £4,800 FREEHOLD

Fox & Sons (Tel. 6120).

#### SOUTH HAMPSHIRE

ENJOYING ALL THE AMENITIES OF THE NEW FOREST

Well appointed rchitect-designed Residence.

5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, sun porch, entrance hall cloak-room, kitchen with Esse cooker.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Main electricity and water

Easily maintained grounds. Good pasture fields.

JUST OVER 20 ACRES



Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christehureh Road

BETWEEN ROMSEY AND SALISBURY

CHARACTER COTTAGE RESIDENCE

With part oak floors and heavy oak beams.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, scullery.

Garage and store

Main services.

GARDEN AND PADDOCKS

In all about 8 ACRES

(part let).



OWNER ANXIOUS TO SELL, WILL CONSIDER OFFERS FOR WHOLE OR WITH LESS LAND
Fox & Sons, 32, London Road, Southampton (Tel. 25155, 4 fines).

DEVON

7 miles South Molton, 12 miles Tiverton.
BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

In delightful rural surroundings and nicely decorated throughout.

2 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, SITTING ROOM, KITCHEN

GARAGE AND WORKSHOP

Attractive garden of about



PRICE £2,400 FREEHOLD Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bourn outh (Tel. 6300) Tel. MAYfair 0023-4

## R. C. KNIGHT & SONS

130, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

OF INTEREST TO LANDOWNERS, ESTATE MANAGERS, FARMERS, BUILDERS, CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS AND OTHERS

#### BRAMFORD HALL, BRAMFORD, IPSWICH

LORRAINE WAY ON THE A1100 ROAD

#### THE VALUABLE BUILDING AND CONTRACTING MATERIALS ARISING FROM THE DEMOLITION OF THE ABOVE MANSION

506,000 feet run selected sound shoring timbers, deals, floorings, scantlings and match linings; 100,000 feet super superior oak and pine floors; 4 Adam-designed marble and wood chimney pieces; superior carved pine panelling and doors; 6 capital bathroom suites; 30,000 old band-made red roofing tiles; 10,000 selected Welsh roofing slates 10 ins. by 24 ins.; 2 nearly-new automatic oil-feed toilers; 50 sectional R v. ardiators; 10,000 feet run 2 in. to 1 in. served and socketted steel ubbing; 30 tons light section of the reliable of the property of the red of the red

#### 1,100 LOTS

which R. C. KNIGHT & SONS have received instructions from Messrs. R. ASHTON & SONS (Stoke Newington), LTD., to SELL BY AUCTION on the premises on MARCH 28 and 29, 1956.

Sale commencing each day at 11 a m. Viewing 14 days prior to and on morning of Sale,

Catalogues, price 5d., from the Auctioneers, 2, Upper King Street, Norwich (Tel. 27161, 3 lines), 130, Mount Street, London, W 1 (Tel. MAYfair 0023-4), and Market Place, Stowmarket (Tel. 384-5), also at Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Hadleigh and Holt.

IN FAVOURITE AND COMPLETELY

#### UNSPOILT PART OF SUFFOLK

A RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

Combining a beautifully modernised Period Mome with lucrative farmery business. Ideal for semi-retirement. Hall, chakroom 3 reception rooms, model laboursaving domestic offices, bedrooms, 2 dressing-rooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main water, electricity, central heating. Gardens and wooded rounds with most and swimming pool Garage, stabling, 2 cottages

Useful range of farm buildings adapted for intensive pig breeding, also modern Danish building. ABOUT 20 ACRES.

#### FOR SALE AT VERY REASONABLE FIGURE

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. Woodcock & Sons, Arcade Street, Ipswich, and Messrs. R. C. Knihit & Sons, 130, Mount Street, W.1 (Tel. MAYfair 0023-4).

#### WEST SUFFOLK

CHARMING VILLAGE COUNTRY HOUSE, PART QUEEN ANNE AND PART GEORGIAN

6 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices

ALL MODERN SERVICES
Garage for 3 and attractive, easily-maintained grounds of 2 ACRES.

PRICE £5,000 FREEHOLD
Apply: R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, Old Town Hall, Bury St. Edmunds (Tel. 135).

#### WANTED WITHIN 10 MILES OF CAMBRIDGE

RESIDENCE WITH 15 OR MORE ACRES. SMALL ESTATE CONSIDERED. USUAL COMMISSION REQUIRED.
R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, I. Guildhall Street, Cambridge. (Ref. W.P.)

#### **NEAR BURY ST. EDMUNDS**

FAMILY RESIDENCE WITH 4-ACRE MEADOW HAVING RIVER FRONTAGE

5 bedrooms, 3 reception rn domestic offices, and ALL MODERN SERVICES
Small but very well kept garden. Good range of outbuildings.

PRICE £4,000 FREEHOLD

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, Old Town Hall, Bury St. Edmunds (Tel. 135).

And at NORWICH, STOWMARKET, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, CAMBRIDGE, HADLEIGH and HOLT

## WM. WOOD, SON & GARDNER

and Horley 3

#### SUSSEX

#### CHAILEY DETACHED MODERN HOUSE

built 1950. Architect supervision. Situated edge of Common 3 Bedrooms, tiled Bathroom, parquet floor Lounge, Dining Room and well fitted Kitchen. Brick Garage and well planned garden.

£3,950. Open to offer.

#### HANDCROSS

DETACHED LODGE COTTAGE

in delightful rural surroundings.

3 Bedrooms, 2 Living Rooms, Kitchen, and very pleasant garden.

GOOD BUS SERVICE.

PRICE £2,800 or with orchard and 3- acre paddock £3,100.

#### IFIELD - SUSSEX

DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE



6 Bedrooms, Dressing Room, Bathroom, 3 Reception Rooms, Kitchen with Aga cooker, Garage 2 cars, Very

PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

#### SURREY

#### HORLEY

#### DETACHED GEORGIAN HOUSE

6 Bedrooms, Bathroom, 3 Reception Rooms. GARAGE 2 CARS. LARGE WALLED GARDEN.

PRICE £3,750.

#### BEARE GREEN

#### DETACHED MODERN HOUSE BUILT 1936.

3 Bedrooms, Dressing Room, Bathroom, 2 Reception Rooms, Kitchen.

GARAGE, 2 GREENHOUSES and just over ONE ACRE land.

PRICE £4,500.

Tel. GERRARDS CROSS 2094 and 2510

## HETHERINGTON & SECRETT, F.A.I. ESTATE OFFICES: GERRARDS CROSS. BEACONSFIELD, AND AT EALING, LONDON, W.5.

BEACONSFIELD 249 EALING 2648-9

#### GERRARDS CROSS

Within 1 mile station and shops. Fine position overlooking parkland.



AN OUTSTANDING HOUSE. Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, maids' room, kitchen, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Double garage. Central heating. Formal and woodland garden, about \$4 ACRE PRICE £7,250 FREEHOLD

#### JORDANS VILLAGE

10 mins, station, Marylebone 40 mins, Lovely views across



IN THE FARMHOUSE STYLE. Hall, cloakroom. 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, boxroom, bathroom. Garage. Charming easily kept 1/2 ACRE

garden
PRICE £6,250 FREEHOLD
where in about 1938, and are just in the market for the first time. All these properties were built for the present owners in al

#### GERRARDS CROSS

i mile station and shops. Adjoining the Ancient British
Camp Site.



A HOME OF QUALITY with hall, cloakroom, 2 recepms, bathroom Partial central heating. Pretty garden of 1/2 ACRE

## Lewes 1 pswich 1 STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER 1 Beaulien STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER 1 Beaulien 1 STRUTT & PARKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.I. (GRO. 3056)

Chelmsford Oxford Plymouth Audover

#### HERTFORDSHIRE-WELWYN GARDEN CITY

London only 30 minutes by fast trains.

ATTRACTIVE WELL-FITTED MODERN HOUSE IN PLEASANT POSITION



2 RECEPTION ROOMS, 6 BEDROOMS. 2 BATHROOMS

> Central heating. All main services.

> > GARAGE

GARDEN ABOUT 1/2 ACRE

FOR SALE

Sole Agents: Strutt & Parker, Lofts & Warner, Head Office, as above.

#### SUFFOLK-ESSEX BORDER

Easy reach of Cambridge and Newmarket. In lovely country. AN OLD FARMHOUSE OF CHARACTER



Modernised and in excellent order.

HALL 2 SITTING ROOMS, 4 BEDROOMS,

MODERN BATHROOM AND WELL-FITTED OFFICES

Own electricity (main available).

Good water supply. GARDEN

ONLY £2,900. VACANT POSSESSION

Farm buildings and additional 8 acres also available, if required. Sole Agents: STEUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER, Head Office as above, or Coval Hall, Chelmsford.

#### AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE PROPERTY SUSSEX-KENT BORDER

on 6 miles. London 70 minutes by fast trains QUEEN ANNE STYLE HOUSE IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER



3 RECEPTION, 5 BEDROOMS, 2 STAFF BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, MODERN OFFICES Main electricity, own water supply, septic tank drainage GARDENER'S COTTAGE

OUTBUILDINGS AND Easily maintained gardens together with arable and pasture land amounting to

OR WOULD BE SOLD WITH LESS LAND TO SUIT A PURCHASER PRICE £8,950 WITH POSSESSION

Apply: Head Office, as above, or 201, High Street, Lewes (Tel. 1425).

#### SOMERSET

#### MODERNISED GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE

IN A BEAUTIFUL SETTING OF WALLED GARDENS

HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 5 PRINCIPAL AND 2 SECONDARY BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS

Main water and electricity. Centrul heating and kon water by Janutor boiler.

Every labour-saving and modern improvement.

In excellent order Most useful outbuildings.

COTTAGE



Lovely gardens (one gardener) with paddock. IN 10 ALL ACRES

PRICE £9,950. WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: Head Office, as above

#### SUSSEX

In a lovely position high up and on outskirts of village A FASCINATING TUDOR RESIDENCE

Beautifully restored,
modernised and in
excellent order.
2 HALLS, 4 RECEPTION,
5 BEDIROOMS,
2 BATHROOMS,
Main electricity and gas,
Good water supply. Septic
tank drainage.
FINE OLD OAK
TIMBERS
(not low ceilings), old

TIMBERS
(not low ceilings), old
tiled root. Interesting
example of Sussex architecture of about a p. 1550,
Lovely garden.
Useful outbuildings.



IN ALL ABOUT 6 ACRES FOR SALE

Apply: Head Office, as above, or 201, High Street, Lewes (Tel. 1425).

#### OXFORD 3 MILES

Situated in excellent position on high ground with fine views.

#### FALAISE, CUMNOR HILL

Attractive well-fitted house.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS. BEDROOMS BATHROOM Main electricity, gas and water

DOUBLE GARAGE WELL LAID-OUT GARDEN including tennis court swimming peol and orchard.

ABOUT 2 ACRES



FOR SALE BY AUCTION AT THE RANDOLPH HOTEL, OXFORD, ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold).

Auctioneers: STRUTT & PARKER, LOPTS & WARNER, 14, St. Glies, Oxford (Tel

## ORMISTON KNIGHT & PAYNE

HEAD OFFICE: 24, POOLE II ST and BARTON-ON-SEA

#### CLOSE NEW FOREST MARKET TOWN



om, compact offices. Double garage, stablingers, Mains and central heating 2 ACRES gard

PRICE £6,500 FREEHOLD

#### NEW FOREST BORDERS

near "Thatches," S. Gorley, near A CHARMING HOUSE, compact Hall, cloaks, 3 rec., 4 bed., bathroo Fordingbridge. tunaks, 3 rec., 4 bed, battiroom, kitchen, Lige. Complete central heating. Main water and FOR SALE BY AUCTION APRIL 11
AT LOW RESERVE
Apply: Ringwood Office Co. Main water and e.i

#### DORSET



BEAUTIFULLY BUILT WELL APPOINTED HOUSE. Lounge Hall, cloaks, 2 rec., b bed., 2 bath., 2 attics, compact offices. Main services. Central heating. Double garage. 2 ACRES. Sloping to River Stour.

PRICE £7,250 FREEHOLD OR OFFER

Telephone

### JOHN K. HOLLOWAY, FAL

10 QUEEN STREET,

#### BEAUTIFUL PART OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND

In a highly favoured completely rural area about 80 miles from Lon-

A DISTINGUISHED RESIDENTIAL SPORTING AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE INCLUDING A

LUXURIOUS MODERATE SIZED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

In the centre of a grandly timbered indulating park overlooking a lake and stream, capacious Home Farm buildings with model cow house for pedigree dairy herd, secondary model pig and poultry farm (complete with all live and dead farming stock and farm staff if required).

CHARMING WELL-KNOWN SMALL VILLAGE

with pond and pictures que old cottages and several admirably-designed modern cottages in harmony, OVER 150 ACRES OF WOODLAND—all available with vacant possition three tenanted farms, in all

OVER 1,200 ACRES — FOR SALE PRIVATELY

Principals only, please, in the first instance, address inquiries to the owner's Agents

MESSRS, JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, BERKELEY SQUARE, W.1 (TEL, MAYFAIR 6341) AND MR. JOHN K. HOLLOWAY, F.A.L. 16, QUEEN STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1 CTEL, GRO. 4694)

16, KING EDWARD STREET, OXFORD Tel. 4637 and 4638

### JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

9, MARKET PLACE, CHIPPING NORTON, OXON. Tel. 39

#### ON THE EDGE OF THE COTSWOLDS

#### A VERY CHARMING SMALL COTSWOLD VILLAGE HOUSE

constructed of mellowed stone, under a Stonesfield tiled roof, well modernised and in admirable order throughout.

TWO SITTING ROOMS, BREAKFAST OR FAMILY DINING ROOM, FOUR BEDROOMS AND BATHROOM

TWO-ROOMED COTTAGE-ANNEXE, with bathroom (approached from the house under cover), suitable accommodation of staff or guests or as

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER. AMPLE WATER SUPPLY, CONSTANT HOT WATER SUPPLY by independent boiler and or electric immersion water heater.

Garaging and other useful outbuildings

Pretty flower and well-stocked fruit gardens, in all about

HALF-AN-ACRE

#### PRICE FREEHOLD £3,950

VACANT POSSESSION

Inspected and recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK (Oxford Office

OFFICES ALSO AT RUGBY AND BIRMINGHAM

#### CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & EDWARDS

1, Imperial Square, CHELTENHAM ('Phone 53439). High Street, SHEPTON MALLET, Som. ('Phone 2357). 18, Southernhay East, EXETER ('Phone 2221).

## CIRENCESTER-MALMESBURY. £3,750 A fascinating and most interesting old Stone House of character with some lovely rooms and much oak panelling and timbering, with old-world garden and paddock. 2 ACRES. Secluded. Close village and bus 4-5 bed., 2 bathrooms, i rec. Easily divided into 2 houses. Also fine stable and garage block and modern flat. Apply Cheltenham (as above).

#### A COTSWOLD PRIVATE HOTEL FOSSEWAY HOTEL, BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER

Near the famous small Cotswold town, which attracts many visitors, and on main road. Modern House and Carden of 1 acre. Long road frontage. 6 bed. (2 h. and c.), 2 large public rooms, office. Main services. Garage 3 cars. Extra land (64 acres) and buildings might be had. Sole Agents and Auctioneers, Cheltenham (as above).

#### OXON. DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES

Near the attractive village, between Henley and Oxford.

An Excellent Modern House in matured gardens with 4-5 bedrooms. Main services. Centr Double garage. £5,950 OR OFFER Apply Cheltenham (as above). entral heat.

#### Nr. BROMYARD, HEREFORDSHIRE

SUPERIOR ATTESTED STOCK FARM. 117 ACRES



ed house with tarmac drive, Beauti-2 bath., 3 rec. Electricity. Cottage buildings. Healthy land. £10,750.

Apply Cheltenham (as above)

### MID-SOMERSET, NEAR WELLS

MID-SOMERSET, NEAR WELLS
A charming period gem, dating to Tudor times,
carefully modernised.
Easily run with every comfort. Hall, spacious lounge
with inglewook, dining room, morning room, modern
offices, 4 bedrooms, staff room, dressing rooms, bath, etc.
Matured garden with stream. Paddock. Buildings.
Mains.
Apply Shepton Mallet (as above).

## BRISTOL 10 MILES. GEORGIAN HOUSE BRISTOL 10 MILES. GEORGIAN HOUSE Peacefully situated Georgian-style Residence of character, unspoiled surroundings. 3 rec., usual offices, 4 hed., boxroom, bathroom, etc. Buildings. Garage for 2. Pretty garden. With 6 acres pasture if desired. Mains. Apply Shepton Mallet (as above).

DIBDINS FARM

DIBDINS FARM,
BACKWELL, NEAR BRISTOL

Valuable Residential Dairy Holding, about 451/2
acres. Ideally situated, 6 miles Bristol. Attractive,
period house historically scheduled. 2 rec., 6 bed,
2 bath. Completely modernised buildings. Main elec.
Private water (mains available).

Agents: J. P. STERGE & SONS, 24, Berkeley Square,
Bristol, 8, and CHAMBERIAINE-BROTHERS & EDWARDS,
Shepton Mallet (as above).

#### BRACKETT & SONS

27-29, HIGH STREET, TUNBRIDGE WELLS. Tel. 1153-2 lines.

#### FOR SALE BY AUCTION, APRIL 13th

(unless previously sold)

AN EXCELLENT DETACHED RESIDENCE known as 110, WARWICK FARK, TUNBRIDGE WELLS. Situated on high ground in a good residential neighbourhood. Lounge, dining room, cloakroom, bedrooms, bathroom and domestic offices. Garage. Garden of 1/2 ACRE. AT early inspection advised.

IN A POPULAR RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT of Tunbridge Wells. MODERN study, 5 bedrooms, bathroom and domestic offices. Garage for 2 cars. Garden of nearly 1/2 ACRE. PRICE £5,000 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION.

GROOMBRIDGE, An exceedingly WELL-FURNISHED DETACHED HOUSE of character TO BE LET FURNISHED FROM APRIL AT 8 GNS, PER WEEK. 3 reception rooms, 4/6 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen. Garage. Garden.

AN ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE near to Mount Ephraim, so often described as the "Sea Front" of Tunbridge Wells. 2 reception rooms, study, cloakroom, 3 bedrooms, bathroom and domestic offices. Garden, with use of private park. PRICE £5,356 FREEHOLD. Strongly recommended by the Agents. Fo. 42501.

#### MOLDRAM, CLARKE & EDGLEY

155/6, HIGH STREET, GUILDFORD (Tel. 67281)

#### NEW HOUSES AND BUNGALOWS

#### GUILDFORD-MERROW-WONERSH-WOKING

A NUMBER OF ARCHITECT-DESIGNED DETACHED HOUSES AND BUNGALOWS IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION IN FIRST-CLASS POSITIONS, TOWN OR COUNTRY.

Hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, labour-saving kitchen, 3-4 bedrooms, bathroom.

GARAGE, MAIN SERVICES

PLOTS OF VARYING SIZES

#### £2,775 TO £5,750-FREEHOLD

Further details and plans available for inspection at the Offices of the Agents, as above.



## **HAMPTON & SONS**

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

HYDe Park 8222 (20 lines)

Telegrams: "Selaniet Piccy, London"



#### KENT AND SUSSEX BORDERS

ation between East Gransfead and Tunbridge Well

PICTURESQUE OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE



Carefully modernised and in exceptional order, con-taining tomage, 4 reception rooms, 7 bedforoms, 3 bathrooms and offices.

Co.'s electricity and water.

Excellent detached cottage,

Garage for 3

Delightful gardens, grass-6 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Recommended by the Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (K.29385a)

#### HERTS AND ESSEX BORDERS

THIS REALLY ATTRACTIVE CHARACTER HOUSE



Half timbered with slate

Hall, cloakroom, dining and drawing rooms, 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bath-rooms, well fitted kitchen, Main services.

Excellent studio, play-room or billiards room, 22 ft. 6 ins. by 15 ft.

Detached garage.

Terraced gardens with

PRICE £4,000 FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

HAMPTON & SONS, East Anglian Branch, Bishop's Stortford (Tel. 243). (F.5086)

Ideal for the City Man.

ESSEX. NEAR BRENTWOOD

In a completely secluded and rural situation in the Green Bell Frequent electric service of trains to Liverpool St. (30 minutes)

THIS CHARMING CHARACTER HOUSE

Exceptionally well appointed and having 4 reception rooms, 6 hedrooms, 2 bathrooms staff flat, Garages, stable

Main services

Lovely gardens, orchard and paddocks, in all about 10 ACRES



PRICE £10,500 FREEHOLD OR WOULD SELL WITH LESS LAND

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (M.28653)

#### PURLEY, SURREY

Excellently planned and well appointed

Modern Chalet-Style Residence

19. Grovelands Road encuably situated on high ground with circus.

Hall, 2 reception rooms 4 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen (Agamatic boiler) boxroom.

All services. 2 radiators.

Good decorative order.

Charming hillside garden

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON AND STATION; BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS; AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.

CAMBERLEY 2292-3

### TIMMIS & FISHER

"MAYBURY HOUSE,"

#### GENUINE SMALL DETACHED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE



55 mins, Waterloo

3 reception rooms, break fast room, kitchen, 5 beds; bathroom, separate w.c.

GARAGE

ONE-THIRD ACRE

Walled garden. 14 miles Camberley Heath Golf Caurse

£3,750 FREEHOLD

#### CHOBHAM RIDGES, SURREY

I hour Waterloo.

MODERN GEORGIAN

6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large lounge, dining room, study, cloakroom, modern kitchen

GARAGE

2 ACRES

FREEHOLD £4,250



## IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO.

WELLS, KENT

CLOSE TO KENTISH VILLAGE 25 MILES OF LONDON



This distinctive modern

5 bedrooms dressing room 2 bathrooms, lounge-hall 2 reception rooms, cloak-room, kitchen with Aga Garage and outbuildings. Central heating throughout. Man electricity and water. Garden and woodland

61/ ACRES PRICE FREEHOLD

Owner's Agents: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., Secenoaks, Tel. 2246 (4 lines)

#### FAMOUS WALTON HEATH



Lovely creeper-clad Modern Residence 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception

2 bathrooms, rooms, GARAGE Central heating throughout.
2 ACRES of inexpensive grounds.

VACANT

Freehold, privately now or Auction at a later date. Reigate (Tel. 5441-2).

#### EAST COPSE OXTED, SURREY

About 12 mins, walk station, 40 mins, from London Bridge and Victoria

ATTRACTIVE MODERNISED SMALL FAMILY RESIDENCE

with well-proportioned rooms 4-5 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM 2 RECEPTION ROOMS, 1/2 ACRE

FREEHOLD FOR SALE BY AUCTION on APRIL 12 NEXT, or privately now.

Auctioneers IBBETT, MOSELY CARD AND CO. Station Road East, Oxfed (Tel. 24a and 1166)

KENT AND SUSSEX BORDER

In ansported country, enjoying punoramic views.

London 1 hour. nient for Wadhurst station

A picturesque Modern Residence. A hedrooms. 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, good domestic offices

GARAGE FOR 3 CARS Main services

ABOUT 6 ACRES PRICE £7,750 FOR WHOLE, or £6,500 with 3 acres only (excluding cottage).



Highly recommended by IBBETT, MOSELY, Tunbridge Wells (Tel

## ESHER WALTON-ON-THAMES MANN & CO. AND EWBANK & CO. GULDFORD WEST BYFLEET

#### EVELYN WAY ESTATE, COBHAM

CLAREMONT TYPE, £4,650 FREEHOLD



Others

SOLE AGENTS (Cobham Office: EWBASK & Co., 19, High Street, Tel. 47.)

#### PYRFORD

LUXURY BUNGALOW



w.e. lon kitchen. coms, well appointed ki garage 1/2-ACRE garder

CENTRAL HEATING ALL MAIN SERVICES.

#### ESHER

FINE MODERN HOUSE, ABOUT 1/2-ACRE GARDEN



£6,150 FREEHOLD

SOLE AGENTS (Esber Office: EWBANK & Co., 70, High Street, Tel, 3537-8.)

#### WEYBRIDGE



6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms. Garage, About 1 ACRE with road frontage approx. 190 ft. All main services.

(West Byffeet Office, Station Approach, Tel. 3238-9.)

(West Byffeet Office, Station Approach, Tel. 3238-9.)

### COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE

mins. West Buffeet station (Waterle



DETACHED GARAGE. PRETTY GARDEN

£3,750 FREEHOLD

(New Haw Office: 315, Woodham Lane, Tel. Byffeet 2884.)

#### FINE SOUTH VIEWS

AFFORDED BY MODERN ARCHITECT-DESIGNED DETACHED HOUSE



On high ground, within 1 mile Woking lown, station (Waterloo 27 mins.). 5 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, etc. Main services, Garage. 34 ACRE picturesque sechuded garden.

£7,250 FREEHOLD (Woking Other 3, High Street, Tel. 3800-3.)

## COLLINS & COLLINS AND RAWLENCE & SQUAREY

WESTLAND HOUSE, 3, CHESTERFIELD GARDENS, CURZON STREET, W.1.

#### DIGSWELL WATER HOUSE DIGSWELL, NR. WELWYN, HERTS.

Within 5 miles of Hertford and Halfield, Fast trains to Kings Cross in 10 minutes.

### DELIGHTFUL OLD 16th-CENTURY RESIDENCE

Facing south, brick built, painted white with filed roof, leaded casement windows. Hall 4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 hathrooms Usual offices

Main electricity. Co's water and gas. Part central heating.

Attractive gardens and grounds with small paddock. Garage for 2 cars.

IN ALL ABOUT 3 ACRES

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION ON APRIL 18, 1956, UNLESS SOLD PRIVATELY



#### NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (Oxon Borders)

Between Banbury (8 miles) and Northampton, Grafton Hunt Country.

#### SMALL STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

Leaded casement windows; in a delightful village, over looking the green.

Main electricity, Ample water supply (main available).

Main drainage.

ASPECT SOUTH AND WEST GARAGE

Old walled gardens, just under AN ACRE 3 COTTAGES

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION FREEHOLD

Tet Wallington ERIC V. STANSFIELD Carabalto

FOR COUNTRY AND SUBURBAN PROPERTIES IN SURREY

EXCELLENT VALUE AT £3,600 FREEHOLD
ATTRACTIVE MODERN DETACHED COTTAGE-STYLE
minutes' walk from Carshalton Beeches Station and delightful Green
3 bedrooms (all with wardrobe emphoards), bathroom, separate w. c.,
hing half (17 ft. by 16 ft.), burnge, well-litted kitchen with boiler, etc.
he secluded garden. Large brick-built garage. (Folio 35,424.)

IN A CHOICE OPEN POSITION AT SANDERSTEAD
A CONTRACT-BUILT MODERN DETACHED DOUBLE-FRONTED
RESIDENCE with part central heating. I bedrooms (one with heat on the half position) in the contractive forms and contractive forms. heating. A hedrooms (one with h. and c. basin; w.c., gents' cloakroom, attractive lounge and by folding glazed doors), study, breakfast room chen with steel sink unit, etc. Sun loggla. Good garace. £4,800 FREEHOLD. (Pollo 45/364.)

ADJOINING DOWNS AND GOLF COURSE

A SUPERIOR ARCHITECT-DESIGNED MODERN DETACHED DOUBLE-FRONTED RESIDENCE, occupying a picked position on the Cheam Relimont PRONTED RESIDENCE, occupying a present per formulage. Features include borders, and set in picture-ging grounds on a wide frontage. Features include PARQUET FLOORS AND PART CENTRAL HEATING. 5 excellent bedrooms, 2 luxory tiled bathrooms, large cubiance halt, tiled gents' cloakform, extremely fine loning and dining room, study, matis' sitting room, large well-filted and tiled kitchen, sim loggia. Garage, etc. 26,950 FREEHOLD. (Folio 75/43.)

HIGHEST STANDARD OF CONSTRUCTION
KENLEY. A NEWLY BUILT DETACHED BUNGALOW of contemporary convenience. OAK BLOCK

design, equipped with every a FLOORING THROUGHOUT hathroom, separate low suite w.c., delightful lounge recess (0 ft, by 8 ft.), splendid kitchen (13 ft. by 0 ft £3,750 FREEHOLD. (Folio

#### PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

By direction of R. and N. Stevens, Esqu

#### SHROPSHIRE

Close to Ludlow, Shrewsbury, Bishops Castle. The well known and Historical Estate, formerly the home of Lord Clive of India, known as THE WALCOT HALL ESTATE

comprising THE MANSION HOUSE which has been reduced in size to suit modern requirements and superbly fitted and redecorated and now forms a dignified house of manageable proportions. The property was featured in COLYRY LIFE in October, 1939. The grounds are of special note with views across the park to the lakes and the time specimen trees of great arboricultural interest. A famous shoot. In addition, the excellent farms, Holdings and Softages known as:

The Dairy Farm
Lower Gardens Farm
Malt House Cottages
Lower Gardens House
Springhead Cottage

Together with accommodation lands and lands in hand and 13s acres of WOODLAND.

#### TOTALLING IN ALL 1,454 ACRES

THIS ESTATE IS FOR SALE AS A WHOLE BY PRIVATE TREATY. IF NOT SOLD, WILL BE OFFERED BY AUCTION IN LOTS LATER IN THE YEAR

For illustrated particulars which are now in the course of preparation, apply to the

#### JOHN NORTON, F.V.I.

IMPERIAL CHAMBERS, LUDLOW (Tel. 70), and BROMFIELD (Tel. 228).

## BIDWELL & SONS

#### SURREY. 24 MILES SOUTH-WEST OF LONDON

SUNNINGDALE 24 miles. VIRGINIA WATER 3 miles

### THE LONG CROSS ESTATE, CHERTSEY. 225 ACRES

Comprising

#### LONG CROSS HOUSE

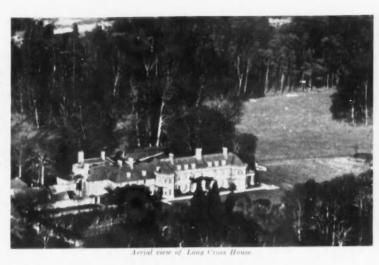
A Modern Country Residence of exceptional architectural distinction and character erected in 1931.

5 reception rooms, 9 principal bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Excellent domestic quarters and staff accommodation

Main water and electricity. Central heating.

GARAGE AND STABLE BLOCK CHAUFFEUR'S FLAT. GARDENER'S BUNGALOW AND COTTAGE

Delightful pleasure grounds and gardens



Hard and grass tennis courts. swimming pool, kitchen garden and orchards and

Beautifully timbered amenity woodlands, together with

> LONG CROSS DAIRY FARM

with first-class dairy premise adjoining Long Cross House 2 MODERN COTTAGES and

HOMESTEAD FARM

with excellent premises in the centre of the estate and 2 bungalows.

Also 2 bungalows separately let

THE ESTATE, WHICH IS AT PRESENT OCCUPIED AS ONE RESIDENTIAL AND FARMING UNIT, LENDS ITSELF ADMIRABLY TO DIVISION INTO TWO SMALLER ESTATES AND WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY AUCTION IN THE EARLY SUMMER AS A WHOLE OR IN 4 LOTS (UNLESS PREVIOUSLY SOLD BY PRIVATE TREATY)

For further particulars apply

#### MESSRS. BIDWELL & SONS

Chartered Surveyors and Land Agents, HEAD OFFICE: 2 KING'S PARADE, CAMBRIDGE, and at Ely, Ipswich and London.

### RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, F.R.I.C.S.

SALISBURY, LONDON, SHERBORNE, SOUTHAMPTON, TAUNTON

JUST IN THE MARKET

#### SOUTH WILTS

About two miles from the CITY OF SALISBUR

#### A FIRST-CLASS RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

S RECEPTION ROOMS, CLOAKBOOM CON-VENIENT DOMESTIC OFFICES, 6 BED-ROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS

Main electricity. Central healing



DOUBLE GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS

PRACTICALLY NO FORMAL GARDENS Orehard, tennis court, kitchen garden, and pasture

IN ALL ABOUT 7; ACRES,

enclosed by belt of well-grown timber

VILLAGE COTTAGE

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY VACANT POSSESSION ABOUT JUNE, 1956

## FOREST ROW, SUSSEX (Near EAST GRINSTEAD). (Near EAST GRINSTEAD). 101. FOREST ROW 363 and 364 POWELL & PARTNER, LTD. And at Edenbridge (Tel. 2381). Kent. Catecham (Tel. 10pper Warlingham 33119), Surrey.

### KENT-LOVELY PENSHURST

FULLY CONVERTED AND MODERNISED



A unique Cottage-style Country Residence garden and woodland, 1 ACRE. Main services.
FREEHOLD £5,750 R.1250

### GLORIOUS ASHDOWN FOREST A TRULY CHARMING RESIDENCE

FREEHOLD ONLY £5,500

#### LOVELY UNDULATING COUNTRY



90.95", mortgage arranged SUPERIOR MODERN NEW HOUSE

FREEHOLD £6,400

B 131

SUNNINGHILL, BERKSHIRE
ASCOT 818

## MRS. N. C. TUFNELL

ASCOT, BERKSHIRE ASCOT 545

SWALLOWFIELD, BERKSHIRE

Only 6 miles from Reading, amid country surroundings.

A LOVELY TUDOR FARMHOUSE



7 bedrooms and 2 attic rooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Modern domestic offices and maid's sitting room Main services. Central heating. COTTAGE. Double garage. 31/2 ACRES. FREEHOLD

Highly recommended by Sole Agent, as above

VIRGINIA WATER, SURREY

A WELL-FITTED MODERN BUNGALOW BUILT ONE YEAR AGO



3 hedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, good kitchen, etc. Main services. Double garage, 1/2 ACRE of garden.

FREEHOLD

#### VIRGINIA WATER, SURREY

Situated on the main A30 road to London, adjacent to famous beauty spot.

EXCELLENT ULTRA-MODERN PREMISES



Ideally suitable for a Restaurant, Showroom or light industrial purposes. 5,000 square feet. Frontage 300 ft. Area extends to about 2½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £12 500

#### RUNNYMEDE, SURREY

By order of C. E. Rickard, Esq., O.B.E., F.P.E., M.L.,
MECH.E. M.L.E.E.

The Freehold Riverside Property known as "KARLMEDE", EGHAM



kitchen, Main services, Garage, Greenhoise, I., ACRE. Will be sold by Public Auction on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1956 (unless previously sold by Private Treaty), with Vacant Possession.

Apply Sole Agent, as above.

#### WENTWORTH, SURREY

Occupying an enciable position surrounded by the well known golf course.

A SUPERBLY FITTED MODERN HOUSE



5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms. Excellent domestic offices. Central heating. Main services. Garage for 2 cars. 1 ACRE of garden, attractively laid out.

FREEHOLD

#### WARFIELD, BERKSHIRE

I mile from Bracknell.

AN ATTRACTIVE THATCHED COTTAGE WITH OLD-WORLD CHARM



ms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms omestic offices, Main services. 3 ACRES of garden and paddock

FREEHOLD £6,950

32, ST. JAMES'S STREET, LONDON, S.W.1 CASTLE CHAMBERS, ROCHESTER.

## H. & R. L. COBB

138, HIGH STREET, SEVENOAKS 7. ASHFORD ROAD, MAIDSTONE

#### BEARSTED, NEAR MAIDSTONE, KENT



The Modern Detached Small Residence known as "BEECHDENE"

Containing 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen.

Main electricity and water. Cesspool drainage. Detached garage.

Attractive gardens of about 1/2 ACRE

#### VACANT POSSESSION

To be Sold by Auction, at the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone, on Thursday, 22nd March,

Particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained from the Solicitors Messrs. TASSELL & SON, 20. West Street, Faversham, Kent, the Auctioneers at: 7. Ashford Road, Maidstone; Castle Chambers, Rochester; 138, High Street,

By order of the Trustee in Bankruptcy,

#### STOKE, NEAR ROCHESTER Important Freehold Market Garden Farm known as TURKEY HALL FARM

with house and buildings and about 177 acres of excellent market garden land.

#### WITH POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION AT THE MASONIC HALL, GUNDULPH SQUARE, ROCHESTER, ON TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1956, AT 3 P.M., IN ONE LOT

Particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained from the Auctioneers at Castle Chambers, Rochester (Tel. Chatham 3036), 7, Ashford Road, Maidstone, 138, High Street, Sevenoaks, and 32, St. James's Street, London, S.W.1; and of the Solicitors, Messrs. WINCH & WINCH. 5, New Road Avenue, Chatham.

#### SUFFOLK

s from I paicich not isolated

A SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE



FULLY MODERNISED AND BEAUTI-FULLY KEPT HOUSE OF CHARACTER with interior carving dating from the 16th Century, and the whole in condition and repair comparable to that of a modern house.

FINELY PROPORTIONED ROOMS, wellpreserved old oak beams and panelling, and outside - a moat.

6 REDROOMS (now parted into four and staff annexe).

Own automatic electric plant

MODEL ATTESTED FARMERY for 14 cows and 25 fertile acres of dry parkland.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT £7,000.

THE FARM AND ESTATE BUREAU, BATH (Tel. 3747)

CREWKERNE, SOMERSET, Tel. 546.

TAYLOR & CO. DEVON, Tel. 2323/4.

COUNTRY PROPERTY SPECIALISTS A MELLOWED AND CHARMING

#### SMALL PERIOD COUNTRY HOUSE

Dating from the 15th century with some later additions during the next 200 years. Now equipped with modern conveniences and connected to main electricity and water. But with its original character and atmosphere

Large beamed lounge with a magnificent inglenook. Dining room with moulded beamed ceiling. Cloaks, modern kitchen. 5 bed-rooms, bathroom, etc. Courtyard.

GARAGES STORE AND WORKROOMS

boxes. Matured garden secluded by yew bedge. Part walled kitchen gar-den. Orchard. Paddock

IN ALL 31/2 ACRES

PRICE £4,500. FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION 2 WELL-BUILT COTTAGES (one v.p.) each with 4 rooms, bathron Particulars and photographs from the Sole Agents, above

Auction and Estate Offices 31. WORCESTER STREET. KIDDERMINSTER.

## CATTELL & YOUNG Tel.: Kidder, 3075, 3077 and 2184 And at DROITWICH SPA

#### WORCESTERSHIRE

THE EXCEPTIONALLY VALUABLE WELL-TIMBERED FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING

#### EARDISTON ESTATE

Including

#### "THE WOODLANDS"

A charming Residence, with 32 acres, in an unrivalled setting.

3 RECEPTION, 5 BEDROOMS, 3 BATH-CHALET, SMALL STABLE ROOMS. BLOCK AND FARMERY

Mains electricity.

2 EXCELLENT HOP, FRUIT, ARABLE AND ATTESTED STOCK AND DAIRY FARMS OF

105 AND 82 ACRES

respectively, with additional land if required.



EARDISTON HOUSE

An impressive medium-sized Georgian Residence.

7 MATURED WOODLAND AREAS

15 LOTS OF CHOICE ORCHARDING AND ACCOMMODATION LAND

6 VILLAGE RESIDENCES AND I MODERN BUNGALOW

FISHING IN THE RIVER TEME

TOTAL 498 ACRES

ALL WITH VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

4 SMALLHOLDINGS, 21 VILLAGE RESIDENCES AND COTTAGES, AND 3 MODERN BUNGALOWS, ALL LET AND PRODUCING £393 156. PER ANNUM TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION IN 66 LOTS IN APRIL, 1956

#### FARMS IN MID-WORCESTERSHIRE

#### A COMPACT DAIRY AND STOCK FARM

EMBRACING 100 ACRES WITH SUBSTANTIAL HOMESTEAD

WELL-ARRANGED AND AMPLE FARM BUILDINGS. MAIN SERVICES VACANT POSSESSION

#### PRICE £9,850

Apply: Cattell & Young, as above.

#### AN EXCELLENT STOCK REARING AND ARABLE FARM

WITH MOST ATTRACTIVE MODERNISED HOMESTEAD

EXCELLENT BUILDINGS AND 150 ACRES OF RICH ARABLE AND FEEDING PASTURES. MAIN ELECTRICITY. VACANT POSSESSION

PRICE £16,000

Apply: Cattell & Yo. No. as above

#### LICENSED PROPERTIES

#### WARWICKSHIRE

Within 6 miles of Stratford-

#### WELL-KNOWN FULLY LICENSED COUNTRY HOTEL

CONTAINING LOUNGE-BAR, TAP ROOM, LOUNGE, DINING ROOM KITCHEN, 6 REDROOMS, etc. GOOD OUTBUILDINGS AND 7 ACRES OF LAND, MAIN SERVICES

VACANT POSSESSION-PRICE £15,500 SUBSTANTIAL MORTGAGE AVAILABLE

Apply: CATTRLE & YOUNG, as above.

#### WORCESTERSHIRE

#### ATTRACTIVE 16th-CENTURY FULLY LICENSED HOTEL

In busy market town,

WITH LOUNGE, SMOKE ROOM, BAR, DINING ROOM, KITCHEN, 7 BED-ROOMS (h. and c.), etc., and ATTRACTIVE PROPRIETOR'S OR MANAGER'S SELF-CONTAINED FLAT. ALL MAIN SERVICES

#### VACANT POSSESSION PRICE £17,500

Mortgage available.

Apply: Cattree, & Young, as above.

#### RADNORSHIRE

THE MOST ATTRACTIVE & PLEASANTLY SITUATED RESIDENTIAL, SPORTING & AGRICULTURAL FREEHOLD

#### PENLANOLE ESTATE

In the beautiful Wye Valley



#### PENLANOLE HOUSE

A delightful Georgian Residence with 29 ACRES

3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Gardener's cottage and good outbuildings. 3 REACHES OF WYE SALMON AND TROUT FISHING

THE ATTESTED HOME FARM OF 45 ACRES with modern T.T. dairy block and homestead. 3 WOODLAND LOTS

3 COTTAGES 2 LOTS OF ADJACENT ACCOMMODATION LAND

TYLLWYDBACH ATTESTED HOLDING OF 23 ACRES ALL WITH VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION



FOUR EXCELLENT ATTESTED STOCK FARMS

(145 acres, 82 acres, 60 acres and 32 acres),

WITH GOOD HOMESTEADS AND BUILDINGS

LET AND PRODUCING £371 15s. PER ANNUM

TOTAL 483 ACRES

ALL FIELDS HAVE WATER TROUGHS FROM RELIABLE SOURCE

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION AS A WHOLE OR IN 19 LOTS DURING MAY, 1956

CATTELL & YOUNG

AUCTIONEERS AND ESTATE AGENTS. HEAD OFFICES: 31, WORCESTER STREET, KIDDERMINSTER. Tel. Kidderminster 3075, 3077 and 2182.

11, DUKE STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

## MURRAY-LESLIE & PARTNERS

By direction of the Rt. Hon. The V

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. NEAR HIGH WYCOMBE THIS CHARMING PERIOD RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER



5.6 BEDROOMS or DRESSING ROOMS 2 BATHROOMS, etc.

GARAGE and

MAIN SERVICES

PART CENTRAL HEATING (oil fired).

WITH GARDEN COTTAGE AND BATHING POOL

2 RECEPTION ROOMS. BATHROOM

KITCHEN

GARAGE

MAIN SERVICES

DELIGHTEUL GARDEN



ABOUT 34 ACRE

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There are EXTENSIVE FARM BUILDINGS and the estate, as well as being bounded on two sides by a main road, is also intersected by a secondary road, so that almost each field has road access

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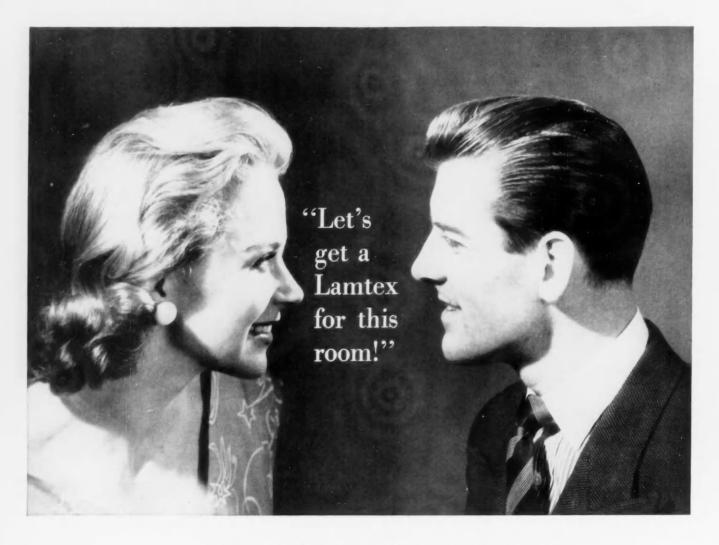
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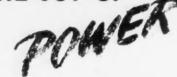


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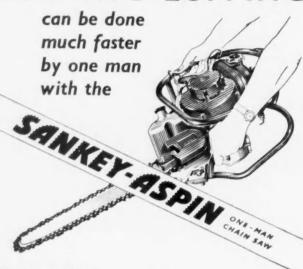
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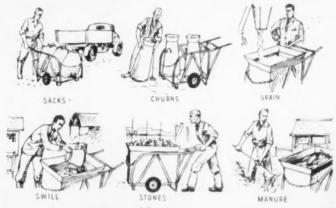
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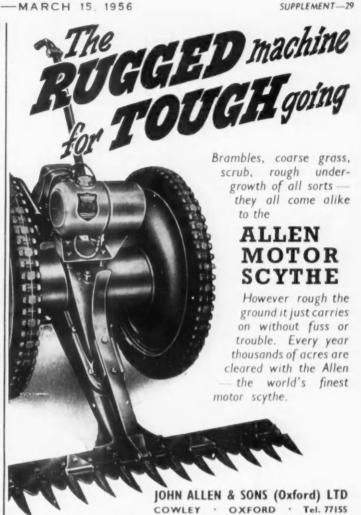
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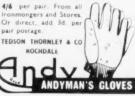
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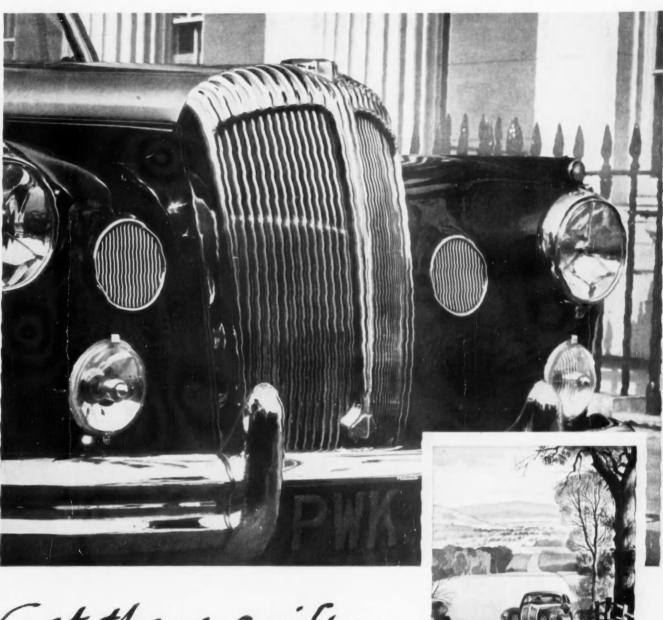
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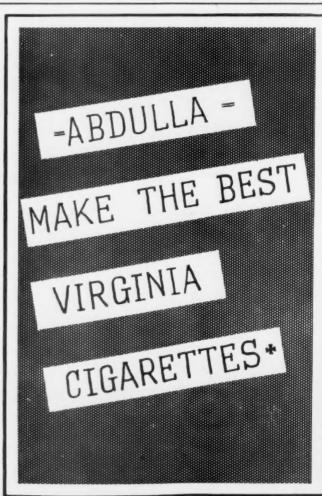
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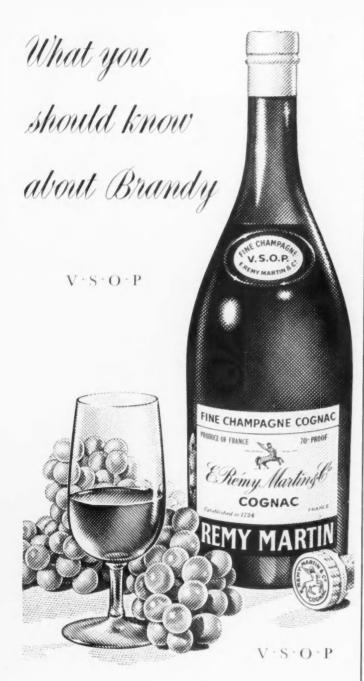
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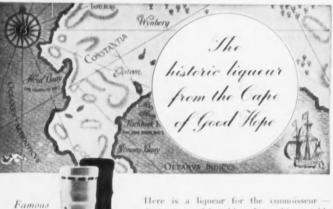
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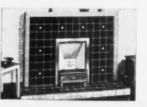
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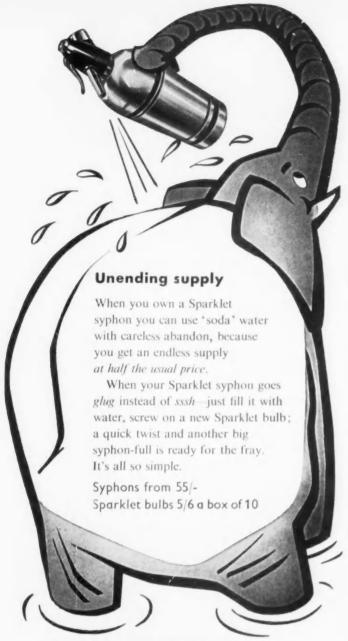
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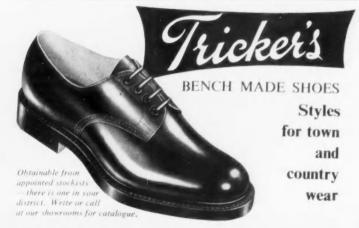
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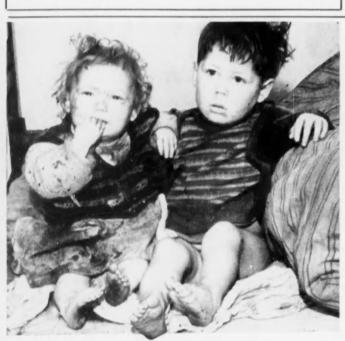
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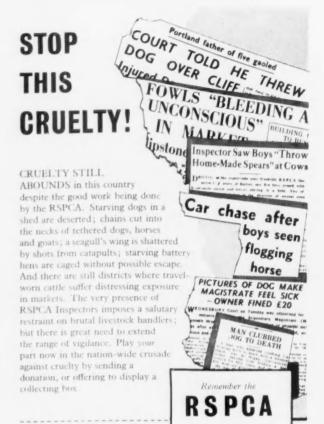
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Supplying power (right) to the town of Jesselton and surrounding districts in British North Borneo, the three 715-h.p., 600-r.p.m. diesel alternator sets seen on the left, and the high-voltage and low-voltage switchboards on the right, were supplied by ENGLISH ELECTRIC to the new Jesselton Power Station, which replaces two existing power stations.



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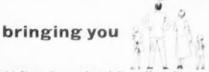
production not only for home demand but for developing export markets.

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# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIX No. 3087

MARCH 15, 1956



MISS LESLEY STEPHENSON

Miss Lesley Stephenson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Stephenson, of the Old Vicarage, Shiplake, Oxfordshire

## **COUNTRY LIFE**

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#### **HEDGEROW AND FARM TIMBER**

VINCE the 18th century most of the country side, in addition to its large woods and forests, has grown substantial quantities of timber in scattered clumps and spinneys, in parks and avenues, along lawns and highways and in hedgerows. To what extent are they a liability and to what extent an asset? Hedgerow timber has sometimes been held a nuisance by arable farmers, and the Committee on Hedgerow and Farm Timber, whose report to the Minister of Agriculture was published last week, were specifically asked two years ago to examine the extent to which its growth was compatible with

good agricultural practice.

Lord Merthyr's committee, while agreeing that there can be no justification at present for planting and maintaining trees which could prevent the best use of the land for food, say that in many circumstances hedgerow trees and small plantations may be of value to both the owner and the nation. Hedgerow trees may afford useful shelter in arable districts, where owing to exposure to wind and lightness of soil, protection is eminently desirable. They are also useful in moderating extremes of temperature, so that earlier crops may be taken. Even in arable areas small wastes at the corners of fields, in hollows or dingles, steep banks or broken land near farm buildings can often provide timber, shelter and amounty without harm to agriculture. The committee recommend that this kind of planting should be widely carried out, especially in the Fens and in other flat arable country, where small spinneys and windbreaks would do much to avoid prairie conditions after hedgerows have been removed to enlarge anable fields

It is not always easy to strike a balance between the factors concerned. Though they provide shelter and shade for crops, livestock and buildings, the trees affect the movement of Though they may moderate the prevailing climate, their roots may affect agricultural operations, buildings, drains and roads. Their presence may check erosion or their removal assist it. They harbour wild life and give shelter to wild flowers and they undoubtedly afford amenity. On the more material plane they yield easily accessible timber for local repairs and may at times provide a useful reserve of capital for their owners. These are the considerations listed by the Merthyr Committee, who clearly have no doubt that, though local factors must be given full weight, the timber of the countryside taken as a whole is a most valuable asset

Between 1947 and 1951 the Forestry Commission made a comprehensive census of hedgerow and park timber and woods under five acres. It showed that the total volume of timber in hedges and parks amounted to nearly 807 million cubic feet, or 21 per cent of the total volume of standing timber in Great

Britain. In England and Wales the figures show that hedgerows and park hardwoods represent as much as 33 per cent, of the total value of hardwood timber growing in these countries, and the figures suggest that the main field for expansion, if other circumstances allow, is in the hardwoods of the southern half of England and

Is the present quantity of such timber in hedgerows and parks in any serious danger of diminishing? Not perhaps in the near future, but certainly in the long run. What is at stake? Timber equal in value to that of 250,000 to 300,000 acres of reasonably fully stocked woodland. The committee's evidence suggests that there is a serious risk of recruit ment to the saphing class of hedgerow and park trees being curtailed. "An increasing number of farmers," says the report, "do not protect young growth, and in some places destroy it, particularly when using mechanical hedge cutters." Nor is there any evidence that much

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#### PLOUGHING

THE tractors whirring through a mist Of shimmering gold and amethyst Plough the home fields, brown and bare Yet when I come and see them there The dear old helds don't look the same As when in childhood days I came And watched the horses, big and brown, Moving slowly up and down, Their harness jingling, and their breath Upon the frosty air, a wreath Of warm and friendly smoke to me The child, who had run down to see My uncle plough, to hear his some Crying: "Whoa there!" To have old Captain back again; To ride astride Ben down the lane! Oh! tractors may be up to date, But they don't beg sugar over a gate!

AILEEN E. PASSMORE

anananananananana

replanting is being done. But on the whole the committee thinks it possible that the annual increment is enough to balance the present annual reduction of stocks. How long, however, will this balance last if there is no replanting?

#### **PUBLIC ENQUIRIES**

THE Committee on Administrative Tribunals and Public Enquiries are holding their regular sittings, and for the present seeking to obtain their views from the permanent officials who have been most closely engaged in the conduct of the system in the past. Of these Dame Evelyn Sharp, for long in charge of the Planning Division of the Ministry of Local Government, is undoubtedly prima inter pare Sir Oliver Franks, putting himself in the position of the ordinary citizen whose rights interests were affected by a decision to build a new town, said: "From the beginning to the published decision of the Minister, the citizen is not aware of what is going on. Do you think he has full, fair play if that is all he sees in the process?" All in all, Dame Evelyn thought he had. "I don't see myself," she went on, "that the Minister can do more than hear the objections of all concerned, and do his best to meet such of those objections as he can without wrecking his policy of having a new town." She agreed that one of the troubles of the Ministry was that, far from diminishing appeals against the development plans of county councils and county borough councils were increasing. In 1955 about 6,500 were lodged more than 500 a month. The figure for January this year was more than 700. She did not think there was any established reason for this rise in number, and she did not know how many people appealed in order to establish their right of compensation. But the Ministry were certainly disturbed by the large amount of case work coming up to Whitehall

#### BACK TO THE TURNPIKE

I would appear from the discussion at a London meeting of the works construction of the Institution of Civil Engineers that, in the effort to get things done on the roads, some of

our technologists are ready to go back a century or two without counting the cost in adminis trative confusion. Mr. Horace Denton Morgan, who put his plan before the Institution, said that it was quite impracticable to provide out of Government funds the highways which we so vitally need, and suggested a return to private enterprise and tolls. The manpower for the construction was available-now that much of the work to be done is mechanisedand so were the specialised plant, the materials and the special knowledge. The perhaps too obvious reply is that half a century of recent legislation has made the central Government, together with local authorities, completely responsible for such projects of highway construction. Unfortunately the central Government has been collecting taxes from users of the highways for forty years past on the avowed pretext that the money would be used in their upkeep and development. Reasons, which we all regret, have been found for diverting the money elsewhere. The present argument with regard to available labour and technical know ledge is just as pertinent to the Government's delay in completing works which everyone desires as to the willingness of individuals to undertake them on a commercial basis. All the same, the list of such developments, which engineers agree could be conducted on a selfpaying basis, is instructive and can surely not be ignored by the Government.

#### SALVAGER OF ROMANCE

PIFTY years ago it became the rage among wealthy and romantic Edwardians to restore and live exquisitely in ruined castles. There were W. W. Astor at Hever, Edward Hudson of Country Life, with Lutyens's help, at Lindis farne, Claude Lowther at Hurstmonceux and Lord Curzon at Bodiam and Tattershall, though he gave up the idea of domesticating either and went to Montacute. After the 1914 war Sir Louis Malet made his Kent yeoman's house at Otham a rallying-point of recruits to this select company, and found in Philip Tilden, whose recent death we record with regret, an artistarchitect with a genius for the loving restoration of the picturesque. With him, Sir Martin Conway "reinstated" Allington Castle and later Saltwood. But though Tilden continued in demand for many a manor house, he found a new field for his skill and imagination in the exciting requirements of Sir Philip Sassoon and Gordon Selfridge, and in more ordinary houses for Lloyd George and Sir Winston Churchill Our generation owes the preservation of innumerable lovely buildings, and the making of their gardens, to Philip Tilden and his friends; some day it will be more generally recognised. Almost to the end of his life his passion for saving beauty led him on, in spite of failing health and means, to reprieve Wortham Manor in Devon, and Dunsland House, now in the safe hands of the National

#### THE BRASS BAND

THERE appears to be a danger of the brass bandsmen lapsing to amateur status. This may not perhaps mean very much to southern ers, but it means a great deal in the north, where works bands have been a regular feature of life and some bands have attained fame far beyond their own towns. The tragedy, for to many people it will seem a tragedy, is apparently due to two causes constantly held responsible for misfortunes to-day, the rising of costs and television. Bands cost more to maintain, the instruments and their repair are far more expensive than of old. The chairman of one band association has said that a band to be at its best must have at least £500 spent on it. The public moreover, does not long for bands with its old avidity, once upon a time it would listen to a band on a park bandstand perhaps in a chill breeze, whereas to-day it will settle down snugly by the fire to amuse itself with gramophone records or gaze on the magnetic television screen. Exactly where the line is drawn be tween amateurism and professionalism it may has undoubtedly regarded himself as superior to the mere amateur and feels that he is un deservedly coming down in the world.

# COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By IAN NIALL

WONDER to what extent dealers, house wives and farmers have really felt the loss of the rabbit. There is no doubt that the rabbit trade brought money to some people in the country and provided many meals for people in the towns. The rabbit was a stand-by of many poulterers, and butchers sometimes had a few to offer. In addition, the fur trade took a lot of skins, and farmers who were sorely afflicted made a few pounds from renting their warrens to trappers, who never quite eliminated the stock. All that is past, though there is little danger of pest officers' going out of work. They have enough moles, foxes and rats to be getting on with, and a squirrel tail has doubled in value

AM not sorry that rabbit is no longer on the AM not sorry that rabbit is no longer on menu. I took what an old lady might call a turn" at rabbit so long ago that I have difficulty in remembering exactly when, I used to have to shoot rabbits for the kitchen when a number of harvesters had to be fed achieve my target I had to shoot more rabbits than went into the pot, for only young ones were accepted, although some of the men who worked for us always insisted that a rabbit in milk had a more delicate flavour than one not

\* \*

Rabbits scunner me," I remember hearing someone in the kitchen saying. My grandfather said the sight of them was enough to give some people jaundice. Anyhow, even if I hated the taste of them and could hardly bear the smell of them, when I was twelve years old and in need of money I speculated on snares and made a fair bag of rabbits, which I caught along the edge of a moss where they were "as thick as fleas". I was inexperienced in trade, however, and when I offered my stock to the game dealer he quickly concluded that I had no other market and could not rid myself of them. He gave me threepence each for them (snares had cost twopence each) and casually threw out the black ones, saving no one would eat black rabbits They were sold along with the rest, I discovered later, for one shilling and threepence each. It was a lesson in the ways of dealers that I never forgot. I had had visions of buying myself a little four-ten with the proceeds of my venture, but when I settled with the ironmonger for the snares I had enough money only to buy a few cartridges for the twelve-bore and had to go back to school before I could do any more snaring or even use the cartridges.

\* . \* HAVE never lived in a thatched house and cannot say just how the thatch should be kept free from unwelcome visitors rats, mice, birds, bats and so on-other than by the use of wire-netting which can usually be rigged over the eaves. A friend asked me about this problem not long ago. He lives in a thatched house of a very arregular shape. It is impossible to wire every corner and angle, and the result is that birds are doing considerable damage. Another friend who had bats in his attic furnigated the cavity beneath the files and discouraged the intruders I fancy the same treatment would drive away birds, for they are very sensitive to fumes of any sort. Alternatively, there may be some simple way of dealing with the matter with out using unpleasant odours. If anyone who lives in a thatched house where the caves cannot be netted cares to let me know what he does about keeping out birds and other nuisances, I shall be very happy to pass the information on. So far, keeping an eye open for thatch, I have not come across one roof that did not have wire netting on it. Long ago I can remember our men having to repair the thatch on corn stacks that were chosen as roosting-places by large numbers of sparrows and other small birds. The thatch became riddled with holes above which the cats would perch in the hope of getting



#### EVENING IN A BRIGHTON STREET

a bird as it emerged. I once saw a weasel hunt ing these holes, going in and out as methodically as it would have done along a bank. After the

. . . BIRDS are notorious carriers of parasites of one sort or another. I can remember the shock I had when I discovered just how infested the average wild bird can be. Preening, dust bathing or other behaviour that looks so attractive is often a simple sign that the bird has fleas or other troublesome bodies among its feathers. I watched a jackday that evidently found some creature on its leg more than it could bear. The bird flew up into the air and then attempted to hover, bending its head for ward and pecking at its leg. Why it chose to do this in the air and not on the ground or on a rooftop I do not know. It may have been that the creature, whatever it was, was capable of regaining its place very quickly, and the only way the jackdaw could rid itself of it was by clearing it from its leg while in the air. The performance continued for five or ten minutes The jackdaw flew round, gained height and tried

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#### SPRING GARDENS NUMBER

Next week's COLNTRY LIFE will be the Spring Gardens Number, and will include a description of the gardens of St. Paul's Walden Bury. Hertfordshire, by Christopher Hussey, and the following articles: Machines in the Garden, by A. G. L. Hellyer: Soft Fruits for the Amateur, by Raymond Bush: Polythene Aids the Gardener. by A. J. Huxley; Garden of a King's Botanist, by D. T. Povey; and Hedges, Screens and Windbreaks, by Michael Haworth-Booth.

to hover while it pecked furiously at its leg. The result was that each time it came down rapidly, for it could not concentrate on hovering and pecking at the same time. There was no end to the business, for while I watched the packdaw's flights took it in an arc that eventually carried it out of my sight, but I should have liked to know what it was that gave such trouble

. .

SUN-RIPENED" is something that the writers of advertising slogans are fond of using. It doesn't mean very much in summer or early autumn, when most things are ripened by the sun, but when pears are picked they often late picking of tomatoes that gets either put into green chutney or laid out in some dark place to open. I am not very fond of tomatoes that are ripened indoors. They seem to be too watery and lack flavour, but pears that are ripened artificially are often very sweet and enjoyable. A friend was talking about this only vesterday. He had had a wonderful crop of dessert pears that his wife had been eager to ripen. Unfortunately, the only place she could find for the fruit was in her husband's wardrobe The fruit was tucked away with the intention of taking it out when it was just right, but in the meantime a message came calling both husband and wife from home for about three weeks

Everything I have to wear smells of ripe pears. We could tell the pears were ripe when would have been writing to tell us. There was an incredible mess in my wardrobe." suppose he is the first person who has suffered in this way. I knew a man who hung vegetable marrows in his bedroom and woke up one night to find that one had dropped on to his pillow, having quietly rotted and slipped its moorings.

# PHOTOGRAPHING BATS IN FLIGHT

Written and Illustrated by JOHN HOOPER

SINCE the autumn of 1948 members of the Devon Spelacological Society, together with my wife and moved. logical Society, together with my wife and myself, have been studying the habits of the various bats that dwell in natural limestone caves, disused mine tunnels and other subterranean cavities in South Devon. This work has involved marking the bats with numbered aluminium rings which are placed round the forearm; the number of bats which have been banded in this manner now exceeds 2,200. Although this total includes bats of seven different species, the kind most commonly found in the Devon caves is the greater horseshoe but (Rhinolophus ferrumequinum), of which nearly 1,500 have been banded. The main objects of the banding work have been to gain knowledge on hibernatory habits, winter movements and long-distance flights, but in addition considerable effort has been devoted to the photography of the bats. At first, such photography was confined to shots of hibernating colonies and close-up portraits of bats held in the hand, but this was merely a prelude to a long-felt ambition to obtain action studies of bats in flight

As a first step towards gratifying this ambition, I obtained an electronic flash unit, nominally portable—although it weighed 15 lb.—so that it could be taken into caves, and giving a flash lasting only 1/3,000 of a second—This brief flash was quite short



A SLEEPING GREATER HORSESHOE BAT HANGING FROM THE ROOF OF A DEVON CAVE. The delicate, curved claws on its feet enable it to hang from very small ridges or irregularities in the rock. The slightly bent legs and partially unfurled wings are signs that the bat was conscious of the presence of the photographer, as it might well be, since this picture was taken with the camera lens only six inches from it

enough to "freeze" the fast-moving wings of a flying bat, but infortunately it did not overcome the many other difficulties that beset the would-be bat photographer. These included locating a flying bat by torch-light, aiming the camera at it under the same conditions, and setting off the flash when it was judged that the swift and unpredictable creature was not only still in the picture but also in sharp focus. Getting it in sharp focus was particularly difficult, for the wing-span of a greater horseshoe bat is little more than 12 ms., and therefore, in order to obtain a reasonable image on the negative, it was necessary to try to take such pictures at a range of 4 ft. or less. In consequence, successful shots were few and far between, although 1 built up a large collection of negatives showing either a few inches of disappearing wing tip, or (more commonly) no bat at all.

It soon became obvious that a more scientific approach



THE HEAD OF A GREATER HORSESHOE BAT, SHOWING THE CHARACTERISTIC NOSE-LEAF. The lower half of this membranous organ, which flares out like horns round the deep-set nostrils and is part of the bat's echo-sounding apparatus, is shaped like a horseshoe and gives the bat its name. The close-set eyes can be seen above and on either side of the nose-leaf

was required, and so, with the aid of a photo-electric cell and various items of Government surplus wireless equipment, a light-sensitive relay was constructed which was sufficiently compact to be carried in a haversack and which drew its power supply from small dry batteries. The theory was that this unit could be set up at one side of a tunnel, being arranged so that the photo-cell was illuminated by a narrow beam of light from a suitable source on the opposite side interruption of the light beam by a flying bat would cause a variation of current in the photo-cell circuit and this variation could be amplified by the relay unit, which in turn would trigger off the electronic flash. It was still necessary to operate the camera by hand, but this merely involved opening and closing the shufter before and after the flash and winding on the film. All this

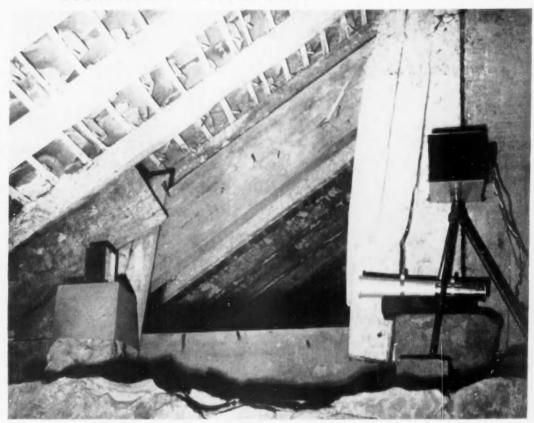


GREATER HORSEHOE BAT EMERGING FROM A TUNNEL IN A DEVON CAVE. A flashlight photograph taken with apparatus incorporating a photo-electric relay, by means of which the bat sets the flash off as it flies through a beam of light. Exposure 1/3,000th of a second. Note the metal ring with which the bat has been marked on its left forearm.

overcame the difficulty of getting the bat in focus at the instant of the flash, since the camera could be set up on a tripod and accurately focused, but it still called for a measure of co-operation from the bat, firstly in flying along the tunnel at all, and secondly in flying through the beam rather than under it or over However, somewhat heavily laden, we carried all this equipment into a cave for a trial, balanced the various units on convenient boulders, and waited hopefully amid a tangle of cables There were only three bats in the cave, but—to our great delight—two of these flew through the beam and thus took their own photographs.

The success of this trial encouraged us to make a further attempt a few months later, this time in relatively comfortable surroundings in the upper storey of a barn. We knew that each July over 100 female greater horseshoe bats were in the habit of gathering together in the roof of this barn to form a nursing colony where the young were born. At dusk these bats would temporarily disperse on a hunt for food, and normally flew out through an opening in a wooden partition, to emerge into an outer loft over the roof of a garage. The opening was about four feet above the floor of the loft, and a brick ledge just beneath it provided a most convenient support for the relay unit and its accessories This hole through which the bats

emerged was a triangular aperture, the top of which was formed by a roof beam, and was only about 30 inches high, so that there was comparatively little space in which a bat could fly without interrupting the light

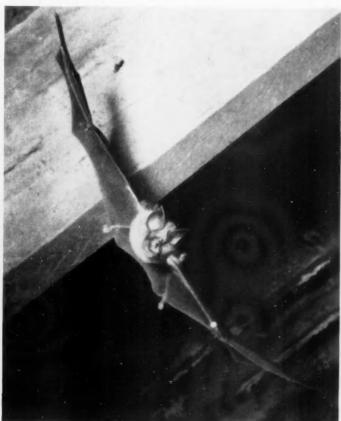


THE PHOTO-ELECTRIC RELAY AND ITS ACCESSORIES SET UP OUTSIDE A BATS' EXIT FROM A BARN ROOF. A special torch (lower right) projects a thin beam of light across the opening to the mirror on the left, and the mirror reflects the beam back so that it falls on the photo-cell in the black box. Interruption of either beam by a flying bat causes the electronic flash to be set off

beam. I found, moreover, that the chances of interception were increased if the beam was located about two-thirds of the way up the opening.

On the day when we tried out this system

quite a few bats flew out and were duly photographed, but we noticed that many others were shunning the hole and were seeking other exits from the roof. It was obvious that they did not like flying from the darkness of the barn into





HEAD-ON VIEW OF A FLYING GREATER HORSESHOE BAT WITH ITS NASAL MEMBRANE POINTING IN THE DIRECTION OF THE LINE OF FLIGHT. Ultrasonic pulses are emitted through the nostrils and directed into a narrow cone of sound by the horns of the nose-leaf. This cone of sound probes, as it were, ahead of the bat and, if there is an obstacle in the way, is reflected back. The echo is then detected by the large ears, so that the bat can locate and avoid the obstacle. (Right) BAT WITH ITS WINGS GRACEFULLY CURVED IN READINESS TO BEGIN THEIR DOWN-STROKE





GREATER HORSESHOE BAT BANKING STEEPLY, WITH ITS WINGS AT MAXIMUM SPAN (APPROXIMATELY 13 INCHES) AS IT FLIES OUT OF THE BARN ROOF. As in other photographs, note the open eyes, closed mouth and erect ears. (Right) PHOTOGRAPH OF BAT IN FLIGHT SHOWING HOW THE WING MEMBRANE IS CONTROLLED AND STRENGTHENED BY THE LONG AND POWERFUL FOREARMS AND BY THE GREATLY ELONGATED FINGER BONES, WHICH EXTEND RIGHT BACK TO THE TRAILING EDGE. The bat's wrist and short, protruding "thumb" can also be clearly seen



FEMALE GREATER HORSESHOE BAT WITH HER BABY CLINGING TO HER UNDERSIDE. The baby is fairly well developed and probably weighs fully half as much as its mother, making a heavy and awkward load. It is carried through the air upside down and tail foremost. This photograph also demonstrates the remarkable powers of wing control possessed by these bats. Here the two wings are shown in different attitudes as the bat prepares to bank sharply in order to turn to the left

the brightly lit opening. I was using a powerful (five-cell) torch as the source of the beam, since this was portable and provided a reasonably parallel shaft of light which could be focused on the small photocell, but unfortunately this also gave a considerable amount of stray light, which illuminated the whole opening. The following year, therefore, I constructed a Mark 2 version of the apparatus in which the light source was a battery-operated electric pointer of the type sometimes used by lecturers. This threw a brilliant and sharply defined pencil of light, barely an inch in diameter, which was not so obviously discernible from inside the barn. Certainly the bats no longer seemed so hesitant about emerging through the opening. A further refinement was the use of a mirror so that the beam could be shone across the opening and then back again to the photo-cell, thus doubling the chance of interruption by a flying bat.

Lypical photographs taken with the aid of this system accompany this article and illustrate a variety of flight attitudes for greater horseshoe bats. Occasionally we were lucky enough to obtain a picture of a mother bat carrying her young. The baby bat, which must provide a most cumbersome load to its mother, clings to her with mouth and claws and is carried through the air upside down and tail foremost The majority of the flying shots were taken at just over 24 inches range, with the use of a supplementary lens, and are thus sufficiently detailed to show that the greater horseshoe bat flies with its mouth shut and with its curiously shaped nose-leaf pointing along the line of flight, This observation is in agreement with recent work by the German naturalist Mohres, who has shown that the horseshoe bat emits its echo-sounding, ultrasonic pulses through its nostrils, and that the nose-leaf apparently acts as some form of horn for concentrating these high-frequency sounds and directing them forward

# A BIRDCAGE IN THE CLASSIC MANNER

By R. W. SYMONDS

T is not an easy task to make an original design for a modern birdcage which is both functional and decorative. The same remark applies to all other forms of modern design when a pleasing and decorative quality is needed. On the other hand, the modern designer does not find it difficult to give an article a functional character and to rely for decoration on streamlined curves and rounded corners. A refrigerator, a gas-stove, a televisioncabinet are all easy to design when a modern and neat appearance is sufficient to please the mind, but a functional design does not endow an object with a sense of elegance and richness. which qualities are essential for a lasting appreciation.

A new refrigerator will not retain its slick and neat appearance after it has been super-seded by a later improved model. This applies to all forms of industrial design, from motor-cars to sanitary fittings, the chief virtues of which are the functional and contemporary

character of the design. The sight of domestic furniture and interior decoration of this modern functional style is hateful to many people. Appropriate to the bathroom and kitchen, but not to the sittingroom and bedroom. Ornament, whatever form it may take, interests the mind and attracts the eye, and for these reasons it is essential. Therefore, the problem of the modern designer is how to produce ornament by the machine In the traditional past it was always the work of a handicraftsman the carver, the inlayer, the engraver, the modeller, the turner. To revive the craftsmanship of the past to ornament the machine-made products of this modern age is not the solution. This is the *impasse* in which

designers to-day find themselves

In the 18th century no such problem existed, owing to the firm belief that the Classical designs of Greek and Roman architecture were the solution of all the difficulties that beset the architect, stonemason, joiner and cabinet-maker. Books with plates showing the five Orders of Classical architecture, the plans and elevations of houses and mansions, designs for ceilings, panelling, doorways, chimney-pieces and also the sections of mouldings drawn to scale were printed in large numbers. Emphasis



REMARKABLE BIRDCAGE HIGH: THE WIREWORK GREEN AND THE DOME AND CROSS OF THE LANTERN ARE GILDED, Second quarter of the 18th century

was laid by the authors on the classic proportions which ruled the dimensions of rooms, the sizes of door, window and chimney-piece openings and also determined the design of wall panelling

It is to these conditions and criteria of the 18th century that one owes the elegant birdcage of architectural design which is illustrated here. It is made of a hard, close textured mahogany and dates from the second quarter of the 18th century. The time craftsmanship displayed in the working of the classic mouldings and columns, particularly in the finted columns and Dorac entablature of the lower storey, clearly shows that this birdcage was the work of a highly skilled joiner-cabinet maker.

A refinement which only an architect would have demanded is that the columns of both lower and upper storeys, together with those of the lantern, are worked with an entasis which has been defined as "a delicate and almost imperceptible swelling of the shaft." On each of the four pediments surmounting the upper storey is a square pedestal upon which once stood a carved figure or, more appropri ately, a bird. The ribs of the dome and cross surmounting the lantern are gilt. The open balustrade of the lantern is in correct scale and shows an architect's understanding of design; the balustrade below the dome is, however, not so happy

This birdcage, when delivered home from the cabinet-maker, must have been a very exciting affair. Its colour-scheme was red, green and gold—the mahogany red, the wire-work green and the dome and cross of the lantern gilded. In addition, there were the bright colours of its feathered occupants. It was also imposing, for when it stood upon a stand (now missing) its height from cross to ground was at least 7ft. 6ms

Nothing is known of its past history and one is left to speculate as to who was the designer. Was he an emment architect, or a gentleman amateur, or one of the fashionable cabinet makers who lived and worked in the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields? If Mr. William Kent, that talented and versatile architect, ever designed a birdcage, surely this must have been the one





DETAIL SHOWING THE LANTERN WITH ITS DOME, CORINTHIAN COLUMNS AND BALUSTRADE. (Right) DETAIL OF THE BASE, SHOWING THE ENTABLATURE AND ENTASIS OF THE FLUTED COLUMNS

# VARIEGATED FOLIAGE IN THE GARDEN

By LANNING ROPER

HOW often someone says. "I wish I could think of something different to plant—something interesting"! Then a series of attractive herbaceous plants are enumerated and a series of the most entiring shrubs, but with little success. Recently I suggested to a perplexed gardener a few plants with variegated foliage, which met with enthusiasm. They are often very beautiful and certainly they are "interesting." As the choice is so large as to be bewildering, a little guidance may be helpful.

Little is known about the causes of variegation. Sometimes it is caused by a disease in spate of which the plant flourishes. In other cases it is caused by a variation or break, similar to the development of a fastigiate or pendulous form of a tree or shrub which suddenly appears for no apparent reason. As a result variegated plants must be propagated vegetatively and never by seed. There is of course another type where the leaf is marbled or patterned, as in the case of the dwarf Cyclamen neapolitanium, which is a true species, coming true from seed. Vitis henryana with its distinctive pale pink and purple vening is another example of this latter group.

Sometimes the foliage is predominantly vellow, with almost no trace of the original leaf colour remaining, actually these are golden-leaved forms, corresponding to the purple-leaved prunus or thus. Laburnum vulgare aureum and Philadelphius coronarius folias aureis are good examples of this group, as is the golden elder, Sambucus nigra aurea, whose out-leafed form is one of the most beautiful of all yellow-foliaged shrubs. Golden forms of herbaceous plants are also useful, Veronica prostrata Trehane is lovely on the rock garden, as its foliage is colourful even when its brilliant blue flowers are not in evidence. These are not in truth variegated plants as I wish to use the term, but are worthy of mention as they combine so well with them.

What a bewildering number of forms of variegation there are, ranging from the leaf that is completely covered with speckling or splotches to leaves that are evenly margined with yellow or white or sometimes just tipped with a lighter colour! In the first category probably the best known example is the now despised Aucuba japonica variegata, with its really rather unattractive leaves spattered with cream as if the painter had forgotten to put down dust sheets before he started on the ceding. This form of variegation is to me unattractive. On the other hand I am very fond of that excellent house



CYCLAMEN NEAPOLITANUM ALBUM, AN ATTRACTIVE PLANT WITH RICHLY PATTERNED VARIEGATED LEAVES. Such plants make an interesting change from the normal run

plant Dieffenbachia picta with its large, much spotted leaves, and of Pulmonaria saccharata with its lovely foliage, which makes such a distinguished carpet in shady places.

Plants with foliage bordered with a coloured margin are legion. Cornus alba spaethi with its generous margin of yellow is one of the outstanding of the many variegated cornels, and variegata is similar, although the markings are creamy white. The variegated forms of Cornus mas and C. controversa are all useful and attractive for they are shrubs of easy cultivation and adaptable to varied conditions. Hostas (funkias) offer various exciting possibilities for the woodland garden or the shady border, looking particularly handsome at the base of dark foliaged plants. Hosta lancifolia albomarginata with its deep green leaves margined white, or

var. aurea with yellow margins and the more spectacular H. undulata with green and white ribboned leaves make interesting groups.

Other margined-leaved plants are Pittosporum eugenioides variegatum with a dainty cream-coloured edge and Elaeagnus pungens aurea with leaves margined yellow and variety aureo-variegata where there is far more yellow and greater variation from leaf to leaf. The hollies offer wonderful possibilities for mixed planting, as do the many forms of Euonymus, including both the gold- and silver-leafed varieties of E. japonicus and E. radicans for hedges, ground covers and climbers.

Variegated plants must be carefully used. As a rule they are best where carefully grouped to give a broad effect so that their full beauty can be enjoyed. A large planting of dwarf cyclamen makes a lovely carpet of interesting colour and form and the bold leaves of *Irum italicum puton*, arrow-shaped, undulate and delightfully patterned with white, are one of the finest of all foliage plants. Appearing in winter and standing up to frosts and snow, they are a feature for the shaded garden or woodland and are outstandingly beautiful in flower arrangements, as visitors to competitions well know, for they are widely used for their bold form and glossy rich green colouring. The tender *Richardia elliottiana* has spotted leaves of similar form, but they lack the richness and do not have quite the same elegant form.

Climbers offer wonderful possibilities, they are particularly useful for lightening a north wall or a dark corner where interest and colour are needed. Flowers in such positions are hard to produce and of short blooming period, while the cheerful gold of ivy, such as Glore de Marengo or the grey-green, bordered white and red Hedera helix tricolor, puts up a bright show throughout the seasons. A climber of considerable usefulness is Actinidia kolomikta with its large leaves boldly variegated with white and pink, sometimes half of a leaf being coloured and at times even the whole of one. Few plants show more consistent variation from leaf to leaf Jasminum officinale auveo-variatum is a useful climber, offering colour of leaf when the flowers are not out.

Lonicera japonica aureo-reticulata is not a favourite of mine. The fine network of yellow veins which covers the leaves is too small in



A USEFUL SHRUB FOR MIXED PLANTING, EUONYMUS RADICANS SILVER QUEEN, WHICH HAS GLOSSY, SILVER-EDGED LEAVES



SUITABLE FOR A HALF-SHADED LAWN: ARALIA CHINENSIS ALBO-MARGINATA, WHOSE LEAVES HAVE IRREGULAR WHITE MARGINS

scale to be effective and at a distance the plant looks pale and anaemic, although an ideal individual leaf when examined reveals great beauty Moreover, it is rather tender, being cut back by frost in severe winters and in our garden produces very little flower. It is not to be compared with the variegated ivies or the actinidia mentioned above.

Trachelospermum jasminoides cariegalum is one of the most subtle of variegated climbers, for the small leaves are margined and blotched with creamy white, and in autumn and winter there is a lovely suffusion of pink and red. These leaves are particularly effective because of their glossy heavy texture. This climber wants a sheltered warm position, if it is to produce its highly scented flowers in midsummer

Of trees again there is a wide choice. An outstanding one is the delicate Acer negundo variegatum with its lobed leaves heavily margined with white or at times entirely white This makes a most effective tree for the town garden and in larger gardens can be grouped as a background for a colour planting. A delightful sight I know of in London is a well shaped small specimen which has been planted in a large terracotta lemon pot in front of a house in a street devoid of trees. It always looks fresh and gay against the dark brick walls. Now I see that a neighbour has copied the idea, and this meets with approval. Pots of this tree when small are effective for interiors as well, and I know of one which adds a very festive note to a rather dark hall each spring.

Another very handsome small tree or shrub is Aralia chinensis albo-marginata, with huge pinnate leaves as much as three or four feet long Often the margin is a very wide one so that the impression is of a predominantly white leaf. These grow rapidly and make fine shrubs for a half-shaded lawn. Though hardy they are not suitable to very cold climates, not growing as luxuriantly as in mild areas. There is also a yellow variety, but the white is the more striking. Plants are particularly effective when young, as the leaves then seem to be even larger. have been fine specimens of these handsome plants at the fortnightly shows of the Royal Horticultural Society, and a large bed of them made the focal point in one of the outdoor

gardens at Chelsea in 1954

Turning to herbaceous plants, there are several outstanding ones. I am particularly fond of the variegated mint with its attractively marked white and green leaves, conforming to no pattern of distribution, some leaves being largely white and others green, and others half and half. It likes a sunny position with some moisture for its creeping roots. At Benton End in Suffolk, where there are many interesting and unusual plants, it is a feature. Then there is a

variegated rue with its leaves bordered with white. I recently saw an effective and unusual planting where the usual blue form was interplanted with a few of the variegated form.

For the edge of a pool or stream there are distinctive variegated plants. Iris laevigata variegata with striped green and white leaves and clear blue flowers is a plant of unusual refinement and distinction, as is Acorus calamus variegalus, with similar shaped leaves striped gold and shaded cream. These are useful plants, for they introduce pale colour at the waterside where fush deep greens abound. Also effective in the water garden, although they will thrive in any moist well dug soil, are the ornamental grasses. These range in stature from the con-spicuously variegated silver tufts of Holeus lanatus albo-variegatus, well under a foot in height, to Miscanthus sinensis variegatus and zebrinus, well over six feet tall. Unriegatus has long arching leaves boldly striped with white, while zebrinus has transverse bars of yellow These make an interesting contrast aid are not nearly as much used as they should be in decorative plantings. The graceful form of these

grasses and their interesting variegations make them fine plants to use to obtain height in a low planting of herbaceous plants or shrubs. should be used boldly in large clumps with lots of space and a dark background so that their full beauty can be enjoyed. A useful grass of intermediate height is Phalaris arundinacea puta, amusingly dubbed ribbon grass or lady's garters. Perhaps they still bear a slight stigma from Victorian and Edwardian times when large clumps of pampas grass were very much the

House plants include so many examples of variegation that it is hard to know where to start. Quite obviously they offer great possibilities, for they are seen at close range so that the extraordinary markings and patterns can be enjoyed to the fullest. The wonderful patterns and rich colouring of coleuses need no description nor do the designs and subtle shadings and contrasts of caladiums. Of all to lage plants they probably are the most delicate and intricate in pattern. How I long to be able to have masses of them for decorative purposes in the house! At the Villa Taranto in Italy they are a special feature by a pool and grotto in the garden.

Begonia rex hybrids are a close second. The variety of patterns and colour combinations seems almost endless and here the shape of the leaves is bold and interesting as well. The large exhibit staged by L. Maurice Mason at the Chelsea Show in 1952 will always linger in my mind, for then it was that the special beauty and merits of this fine plant made their first impact. They require more heat than many of us can offer, but they are worth the effort, and now some excellent named clones, such as Iron Cross, Silver Queen and La France, are available. On the whole the lighter patterned leaves are more effective in houses unless the rooms are light in colour, and then the deeper coloured ones like the dark red Vesuive are striking

Containers of mixed plants can be made up so that pleasant contrasts of foliage form and coloration can be obtained. This the florists now well understand, and if an arrangement cannot be found to suit, then they will make up one according to one's fancy

The geranium is the outstanding house and bedding plant with elaborately variegated foliage. The zones of light and dark have rightly earned the specific name for *Pelargonium* zonale. The variations of hybrids are almost endless, with unusual combinations of red and yellow and green in the same leaf. Many of the scented-leaved varieties also are variegated, so there are amusing possibilities for the collector of this genus.



SILVER FILIGREE. ONE OF THE BEGONIA REX HYBRIDS, WHICH SHOW GREAT VARIATIONS IN COLOURING AND PATTERN

# PLASTER CEILINGS IN DEVON

Written and Illustrated by CECIL FRENCH





I.—RIBBED CEILING WITH PENDANTS AT COLLACOMBE MANOR (1574), (Right) 2.—AT COTTLES BARTON, NORTH TAWTON (1599). This ceiling shows the characteristic floral angle sprays found in Elizabethan examples

AltHot GH so much has been written about our indebtedness to the first Ehzabethans in the field of interior decoration, yet surprisingly little has so far been said about the moulded plasterwork which was such a striking feature of an Ehzabethan room. The walls and turnshings of many a fine West country mansion have been well described and adequately photographed during recent years Almost without exception, however, the embossed ceilings, intended as the crowning glory in the rooms for which they were made, have received comparatively little attention. Yet the variety of ceiling patterns in plaster are as much a legacy of 16th century craftsmanship as oakpanelled walls or stone mullioned windows.

In a county as far removed from London as Devon, the wealth of plasterwork remaining is remarkable, even extending to remote farm-houses in the depths of the country. But Devon was rather later in the field than the Home Counties, the majority of work in this medium was not executed until after 1600. Thereafter, up to the time of the Civil War and later, many fine ceilings were made in the Gothic tradition. These are of single, double or enriched ribs, with angle sprays of infinite variety. Only

a few of these ceilings bear a date, and of none of them has it yet been possible to ascertain the name of the craftsman responsible for the work.

Italians introduced by Henry the Eighth for his palace at Nonesuch, built about 1538 and long since demolished, have been given the credit for executing most of the ornate plaster ceilings in the country mansions which were remodelled at this time. Some time after 1547 we find mention of Italian plasterers working for Sir John Thynne at Longleat, Wiltshire. It is not a far cry from here to Devon, and yet it appears to have taken another forty years at least for the new fashion to spread this distance.

Flemings who fled their native land during the violent religious persecutions under the Duke of Alva in 1567-73 are said to have been responsible for ceilings in the town houses of wealthy merchants. When, however, the amount of work executed in every English shire in the space of a few years is borne in mind, it becomes apparent that a mere handful of foreigners could not possibly have done all this work. They must have inspired native craftsmen to emulate them and to use the Itahan and Flenush pattern books which were being made

available through the new medium of printing. There is a tradition that Italian plasterers were employed by the Bishop of the diocese to decorate his palace at Exeter, of which work, unfortunately, no trace now remains. This tradition is noted by Miss Iris Brooke in her book Four Walls Adorned, in support of which she has detected the Italian hand in certain plaster figures near Exeter, which are attired after the foreign rather than the local fashion of the day. Be that as it may, it is to native genius rather than to Italians or Flemings that the majority of the designs of this period must be attributed in Devon. What Mr. Bruce Oliver found true for North Devon, as he points out in his article Early Seventeenth-Century Plaster Ceilings of Barnstaple published in the Transactions of the Devonshire Association for 1917, I have discovered to apply to the county as a whole. The quality of the workmanship varies a great deal, however, from intricate and refined geometrical patterns to crude imitations of a master hand.

The earliest collings consist almost entirely of examples having moulded ribs with floral angle sprays, and they are of a type not found in 16th-century. Italian or Flemish work. Their







3.—DUNSMOOR, SILVERTON. (Middle) 4.—THE BUTTERWALK. DARTMOUTH. (Right) 5.—144, FORE-STREET, EXETER. In Fig. 3 the bird pecking the grapes is reminiscent of the same motive at Rashleigh; the pea-pod and strawberry motives and the coiled serpent in Fig. 5 recur on the ceiling at Upcott Barton, Poughill. The double ribs in Fig. 4 also appear at Upcott





6 and 7.—DETAILS OF TWO EARLY 17th-CENTURY CEILINGS OF THE BARNSTAPLE SCHOOL. (Left) AT STAFFORD BARTON (REMOVED FROM BARNSTAPLE) AND (right) AT RASHLEIGH BARTON

origin is probably to be sought in the panelled and ribbed ceilings of the late 15th and early 16th centuries; the floral angle sprays are reminiscent of the carved ornaments at the intersections of moulded beams in timber ceilings. But the pendants seen in some examples (Figs. 1 and 2) are clearly derived from late Gothic vaulting in stone. The strapwork cartouche, which came later, was a foreign motif; it was used at first in friezes and overmantels, not being introduced into ceiling designs until after the turn of the 17th century. By this time local plasterers had not only become sufficiently expert to work on their own without foreign supervision, but had also grouped themselves into "schools" based on the large ports of Barnstaple, Exeter and Totnes cum Dart-

mouth. A careful comparison of the patterns, floral sprays and other decorative devices used, such as animals, birds and plants, as shown in the accompanying illustrations, bears this out

It seems evident, too, that each "school" of plasterers possessed their own pattern books and moulds, which were pealously guarded and handed down from father to son. This again would account for the recurrence of similar motifs in the same area, and for the persistence of traditional designs much longer in the south-west than elsewhere. A cottage ceiling near Teignmouth, bearing the date 1726, is the latest example known to me of the single-rib pattern, long after the rest of the country had pronounced in favour of classical ovals, swags and festoons.

A certain William Hurste, Mayor of Exeter in the time of Queen Elizabeth I, had the building of the recently dissolved Priory of St. Nicholas for his town house. Sir John Fulford, of Great Fulford Manor, ten miles to the west, also decided to introduce the new fashion for moulded plaster ceilings into his country.

mansion. They both employed the same plasterer of the Exeter "school" to do the work, for each house shows the Tudor Rose in a central lozenge and there is a remarkable affinity between the sprays. These single-rib ceilings at St. Nicholas Priory and at Great Fulford were executed in the 1580s. The fineness of the work points to a skilled hand, professionally trained and providing inspiration for much that was to follow.

Three more ceilings in and around Exeter are clearly the work of the same artist, for in each can be seen the same "pea-pod" motif (Fig. 5). The lay-out of these ceilings shows that this man was schooled in tradition and familiar with contemporary books of designs.

The ribs in the ceiling at Upcott Barton are

of the double-moulded variety, which did not make their appearance until after the turn of the 17th century. They also occur in the ceiling in the Butterwalk at Dartmouth (Fig. 4). If the Upcott ceiling is compared with others of similar style and date in Dartmouth and near Barnstaple, it will be observed that each has distinctive characteristics and yet is different from the others. Here dissimilarities rather than similarities lend support to my thesis.

The enriched rib ceiling is the third type which comes within the period under discussion. This type was very popular in the Exeter and Barnstaple areas, but much less so around Totnes and Dartmouth. Five fine ceilings near Exeter are similarly set out with an identical pomegranate angle spray.

The Barnstaple school of plasterers dispensed with floral angle sprays altogether in most of their enriched rib ceilings, preferring to fill the spaces between the ribs with strapwork cartouches of Biblical scenes, as well as a wealth of birds, beasts and fishes, both real and legendary. That the same master was responsible for the three ceilings in Westminster Bank, Barnstaple (dated 1620), at Rashleigh Barton and Stafford Barton (removed from Barnstaple early this century) is revealed beyond all doubt by the repetition of similarly shaped panels and decorative devices (Figs. 6 and 7)

Although it is possible to detect many other similarities of design, not only in ceilings but on overmantels as well, yet sufficient has been said to show how vigorous and how distinctive was Devon plasterwork in the first half of the 17th century. During this period property owners of all classes vied with one another to decorate their chief rooms in the new style, local plasterers being commissioned to do the majority of this work. Their names have passed into oblivion, but their skill remains for all to see.



8.—FORD HOUSE, NEWTON ABBOT (1610). Identical motifs are used at Grange, Broadhembury

#### RACING NOTES

# A MEMORABLE CHELTENHAM -

ANOTHER National Hunt Meeting has come and gone, and seldom, if ever, can the weather have been kinder. It seemed almost as though March were determined to make amends for February, and the thousands who converged on Cheltenham on Tuesday evening of last week found the Cotswolds bathed in sunshine and the race-course showing a gentle green against the background of surrounding hills, though here and there were occasional dark patches where frost had seared the grass. On Thursday, when the Gold Cup was run for conditions were well-nigh perfect, and the runners for the great race were a colourful sight as they paraded slowly in front of the stands, oblivious of the raucous shouting of the bookmakers that rose above the general hubbub of the crowd.

It was expected that this year's Gold Cup would be won by Mr. J. Davey's Limber Hill (a strapping nine-year-old gelding by Bassam, a little-known sire, out of Mindoon, a Gainsborough mate) who, before having his attention was almost upsides with the winner when he weakened coming to the last fence. It was a fine performance and one that promises well for the future.

Limber Hill is trained at Malton in the East Riding of Yorkshire by W. Dutton, who rode Tipperary Tim to victory in the Grand National of 1928, the year when Easter Hero landed on top of the fence at the Canal Turn and fell back into the ditch, causing a méléc that put more than half the runners out of the race.

By saddling Limber Hill to win the Gold Cup Dutton completed a remarkable feat of training, for he is also responsible for Pappa Fourway, the reigning sprint champion on the flat, who last year won all of the eight races in which he took part, including the July Cup at Newmarket and the King's Stand Stakes and Diadem Stakes at Ascot.

As is sometimes the case with an outstanding steeplechaser, there is an element of chance about Limber Hill's breeding. In this instance,

neither distinguished himself, for Boltown Comet ran moderately throughout, and Stroller fell three hurdles from home. It may be that Stroller was the victim of a certain amount of scrimmaging that took place at the turn on the far side of the course, but he was not going well at the time and one doubts whether he would have been concerned in the finish. However, the defection of Stroller and Boltown Comet did not mean that the Irish resources were exhausted, for Mr. M. Dawson's Bold Baby and Mrs. Leslie Brand's Quita Que were also in the race, and as the field took the final bend, Quita Que, ridden by Mr. J. R. Cox, was in the lead, with Bold Baby one of a closely packed bunch of horses close behind him. But at the last hurdle it was Doorknocker, in Mr. Nicholson's grey and scarlet colours, who loomed up on the outside, and though Quita Que, ably seconded by Mr. Cox, who is the equal of most professional jockeys, gave all he had, Doorknocker, brilliantly ridden by H. Sprague, held him off up the hill by three-quarters of a length, with Mr. M. Kingsley's Baby Don four lengths away in third place, just in front of Flame Royal and Bold

By DARE WIGAN

The riding of H. Sprague was one of the features of this year's Cheltenham meeting, as, indeed, it has been throughout the National Hunt racing season. He has long been recognised as one of the most proficient hurdle race jockeys in the country, and the strength and timing of his finishing efforts on Doorknocker in the Champion Hurdle Challenge Cup, and on Stroller, whom O'Brien pulled out again on the last day of the meeting to win the Spa Hurdle Race, were reminiscent of Sir Gordon Richards. But Sprague, though he seldom rides over fences, is also an accomplished steeplechase jockey, and nothing could have been better than the opportunism that he showed when driving Mr. G. Strakosch's Rosenkavalier home first in the Grand Annual Steeplechase after both Limb of the Law and High Level had seemed to have better chances coming to the last fence.

Another jockey who gave added proof of his ability was T. P. Burns, who rides M. V. O'Brien's hurdlers. Unlike Sprague, whose forearms and shoulders might well be the envy of a professional boxer, Burns is slightly built, and one would expect him to rely on balance and timing. He has these qualities in full measure, but those who saw him locked in battle with F. Winter, in last year's Champion Hurdle Chellenge Cup, knew that he was capable of riding a powerful finish. And in the second division of the Gloucestershire Hurdle Race, having won the first, he gave proof of his strength when he landed Pelargos a winner from Lady Joicey's d'Angelo after d'Angelo had seemed to be going the better.

the better To the hunting folk who come from the grassy fields and stone walls of the Cotswolds and from farther afield, the attractions of Cheltenham lie chiefly in the races reserved for hunters. These are the Foxhunters' Challenge Cup, run for over four miles, and confined to horses that have been placed first, second or third in a Hunters' Steeplechase under National Hunt Rules, or who have won an open chase at a Point to-Point; and the United Hunts' Challenge Cup, run over three and a half miles, which observes the same conditions, save that in this case an animal that may never have negotiated a Point-to-Point course qualifies As may be imagined, these races are apt to be pretty desperate affairs, and this year's contest for the United Hunts' Challenge Cup was no exception, for it was only in the last ten yards that Mr. S. L. Maundrell's chestnut mare, that Mr. S. L. Maundrens Chesthut mare, Solbay, from the V. W. H. Cricklade, overhauled Mr. C. Nixon's Creeola II, from the Croome country, to win by half a length; and the Foxhunters' Challenge Cup was in the balance at the penultimate fence where the hot favourite, Mr. C. D. Scott's The Callant, from the Ied Forest in the Border country, jumped a length or so in front of Major J. Bell-Irving's May King and Mr. P. Caley's First Bid, both of whom came down. It may be that The Callant



MR. J. DAVEY'S LIMBER HILL, RIDDEN BY J. POWER, TAKING THE LAST FENCE BEFORE WINNING THE CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP

turned to racing, had been hunted by his owner with the Brocklesby Hounds. His receid cer tamly entitled him to favouritism, for last year, when still a comparative novice, he had beaten Quare Times, the subsequent winner of the Grand National, in the National Hunt Handi cap Steeplechase, and on Boxing Day, at Kempton Park, a course where speed rather than stamma is apt to be decisive, he had battled on dourly to defeat Galloway Braes, one of the fastest jumpers in training, by a neck for the King George VI Stakes after being outpaced for most of the way. But Cheltenham is a vastly different proposition from Kempton Park, and Limber Hill's powerful, raking stride is ideally suited to the course, so that he had no trouble in holding his place from the start, and his bold fencing and stamma did the rest, for though Mr. A. R. B. Owen's Vigor, a rank outsider, hunted him home, and the game little Halloween put in his usual determined run up the hill, the issue was never seriously in doubt. But next year Limber Hill may well have to face a for-midable challenge from Mrs. A. C. Leggatt's Cruachan, for this bay gelding by Tartan out of Lass of Kilcash, who had had only two races over fences in his life, jumped superbly, and

Mr. Davey, who tarms near Grimsby, having found it impossible to get Mindoon in foal to a thoroughbred stallion, mated her with a carthorse. The mating was successful, and though the toal turned out to be useless for practical purposes, Mr. Davey was encouraged to send his mare to Bassam, with the result that he now owns the champion steeplechaser.

Limber Hill's victory in the Gold Cup will have given special pleasure to racing enthusiasts in the North, for it was the first time that a Northern-trained horse had won the race. But Yorkshire and Lincolnshire had already combined to make it a memorable Cheltenham, for on the first day of the meeting Doorknocker, an eight-year-old gelding by Cacador, owned by Mr Clifford Nicholson, who, like Mr Davey, farms in Lincolnshire, and trained by W. Hall at Tadcaster in the East Riding, had won the Champion Hurdle Challenge Cup.

There was a feeling of optimism that in some cases amounted almost to a certainty that this year's champion hurdler would be either last year's runner-up, Stroller, or Boltown Comet, both of whom are trained by M. V. O'Brien in Ireland, and they duly started first and second favourite respectively. In fact,

would have won in any case, for this unimpos ing grey has a remarkable turn of speed and fairly sprinted up the hill at the end of the race But it would have been interesting to see what would have happened had May King remained on his feet, for this gelding from Dumfriesshire had put up a remarkable performance on the Friday before Cheltenham when he won the Handley Cross Hunters Chase at Manchester in a canter from Copper Cable and Happymint

There were happenings at last week's National Hunt Meeting that will have to go unrecorded, but since the Grand National is due to be run in just over a week's time, it may be of interest to record one's impression of the

National Hunt Handicap Steeplechase, run over three miles, for it attracted several Aintree candidates. The winner was a brown mare named Kerstin, from Major C. Bewicke's suc cessful stable at Alnwick, Northumberland But Kerstin is not entered for the Grand National, and the attention of most people was focused on the running of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's Devon Loch, Colonel W. H Whithread's Carey's Cottage, and Mr. O. H Gilbey's Valiant Spark, all of whom figured prominently in bookmakers ante-post betting lists for the Grand National. Of these three, Devon Loch performed with credit; indeed, he gave a most encouraging performance, for his

jumping was safe, if a trifle deliberate, and, hav ing been last of the 16 runners at half-way, he was able to make up sufficient to finish third, only six lengths behind the winner. Spark, on the other hand, ran disappointingly, and Carey's Cottage came down at the water on the second circuit.

A figure that was sadly missing at Cheltenham was that of the late Lord Bicester, who had done so much for National Hunt racing and whose colours were often seen in the winner's enclosure. They were there again last week after the Mildmay of Flete Challenge Cup was won by Pondapatarri, and one wished the winner's late owner could have been there.

### RUGBY'S ELUSIVE TRIPLE CROWN

RUGBY football's two most famous tro-phies are as elusive as ghosts. One of them, indeed, is as immaterial as any ghost could be, for the simple reason that it exists only as a much-cherished myth. As for the other, it pops in and out of its strongroom cupboard like the proverbial skeleton, visible for a few days each March by the favoured few

and handled by even fewer.

I refer in the first place to the Triple Crown which slipped out of the hands of an expectant but over-anxious Welsh fifteen so astonishingly in Dublin last Saturday. The other trophy does in fact exist, it is, of course, the Calcutta Cup, which England, its present holders, soon will carry with them up to Edin burgh for competition with Scotland, the only other country permitted by long-established custom and solemn agreement to have any say in the matter. At the moment, however, one has no concern with the future, no matter how close ahead. It is enough to retail some of the happenings at Lansdowne Road, where, to the and amazement of most of a crowd of 50,000, Ireland won their second match this season, with no more fixtures left in hand.

The spectators also included some thous ands of itinerant Welsh supporters, who were not, perhaps, so surprised as most people might suppose. After all, even larger parties of them had seen something very like it, or even worse, happen at Murrayfield in recent years. In any case, the modern Welshman, though as keen and enthusiastic as ever, takes his Rugby less grimly than he used to do. Certainly, in Dubhn and Edinburgh, and in Paris, too, on occas ion, he follows the Leek in a true holiday, almost carnival, spirit. The impressive size and dignity of Twickenham still oppresses him a bit, but he has found his voice there to some purpose, and some of the gayer adventurers still hope one day to clude the police and affix a leck high up

on one of the stately goal-posts.

On this occasion, at Lansdowne Road, where the Irish Union have given the ground a new and almost Twickenham look by creeting another towering double-decker stand, most of the sounds before the match came from the Welsh visitors. These promptly replied to the Soldier Song as played by the darkly uniformed Garda Siochana Band by singing Land of My Fathers. That, for once, lent no inspiration to a Welsh team, who, from start to finish, remained stolid and slow, almost flat-footed, in front and easily pinned down when the ball reached the backs

Altogether, it turned out to be a great Irish, not a Welsh, occasion. Wales have yet to win their tenth Triple Crown, and the championship now may elude them too. Hap-Welsh players and supporters alike accepted their disappointment in a proper spirit. No doubt there was a strong expectation of triumph at the start, but, long before Ireland had added a converted try to a dropped and a penalty goal, and so made the score 11-3-Wales having ted precariously by a penalty goal to nothing at the interval it was clear enough that in sober reality this Welsh fifteen was no Triple Crown side after all. Among the thousands who surged on to the playing field directly the last whistle sounded were many Welshmen in their scarlet berets and equally garish red and white scarves, as cheery as ever and now as intent as any Irishman upon obtaining autographs and handshakes with the famous

By O. L. OWEN

One of the latter was Ken Jones, the New port wing and Olympic sprinter, who had just equalled the record of 42 international caps held by George Stephenson, of Ireland. No one has ever questioned the essential greatness of Jones as a runner-in, but one feels bound to add that no player of distinction has ever been handed the ball more infrequently by his fellows over a period of years. Last Saturday was no exception, though, on this occasion, Jones was not the only sufferer. The whole three-quarter line, in fact, were reduced to cyphers by the extraordinary ineptitude perhaps staleness would

these Welsh veterans had figured along with Thompson in the Test Matches against the Springboks, but, as many had feared would happen, they had left a lot of their fire and stamina behind them in South Africa. This Welsh pack had revealed some of their staleness against England, but the way in which they recovered their form against Scotlandallowing of course for changes -left the impression that they would be much too good for Ireland. How wrong everyone was about that was the background story of last Saturday's match. Pedlow eventually added a penalty to Kyle's dropped goal after he and Henderson between them had failed six times, but it was a



B. V. MEREDITH (WALES) PASSING THE BALL TO ONE OF HIS BACKS AFTER A LOOSE MAUL IN THE RUGBY INTERNATIONAL MATCH WITH IRELAND

be a kinder word-of the forwards and the complete inability of Cliff Morgan and his partner Brace to operate effectively under severe pressure. Brace at long intervals tried to exploit his switch-tactics but in vain. Both he and his partner became more and more harassed and flustered by the clever spoiling de vised by O'Meara, the Irish scrum-half, and the two breakaway forwards, Kavanagh and Cunningham.

Oddly enough, and very luckily for Wales, Kyle's handling in the stand-off position for his side was little better than Morgan's. Nor was his kicking ahead. Kyle dropped a wonderful goal from long range at just the right moment for an Ireland who still were three points behind midway through the second period, but in the main he did little to bring into effective action the Irish three-quarters. Above all the running power of the redoubtable O'Reilly rarely came into view

It was freely recognised that Ireland possessed backs with as much scoring power as the Welsh but not the forwards to offer them the chances. The Irish pack had previously failed three times, against France, England and Scotland, but now under the leadership of R. H. Thompson, the captain of the British Isles touring side, they made the Welsh veterans look slow and dreary by comparison. Five of

forward, Cunningham, who backed up O'Meara to score the only try of the match.

The match certainly drove home one very old lesson to the effect that the cleverest backs soon find themselves in trouble if their forwards do not complete their shove in the scrummage and, forcefully and swiftly, do enough in the loose to throw the opposing backs out of gear. That was what happened to Wales, who were distressed to find that what Brace and Morgan could achieve brilliantly against a held Scottish pack they showed no signs of doing against well led Irish forwards who did not only most of the holding but nearly all the effective spoiling as well. Nor should one omit to mention the Irishmen's truly astonishing ascendancy in the line-out.

At the moment, the championship can be won outright by either Wales, England or France or end in one of those indecisive ties which please no one. England's two remaining matches are away from Twickenham. The extreme mediocrity of Scottish back-play must encourage English hopes of retaining the Calcutta Cup, at Murrayfield, but they will await with some anxiety the result of the match between Wales and France. Should France be able to win at Cardiff, which they have never done before, England will have to make a maximum effort at Colombes on April 14.

### ST. PAUL'S WALDEN BURY

THE HOME OF THE HON. DAVID BOWES-LYON

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

The Georgian front, in connection with a notable formal landscape garden, was added to an older house by Edward Gilbert (d. 1762); the interior decoration can be dated 1767 and is attributed to James Paine.

T may seem appropriate in retrospect that Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother should have spent so much of her youth at St. Paul's Walden Bury: for no English country house better represents the qualities which many would wish associated with a future Queen, and which are indeed so happily reflected in her Majesty. The garden on a scale at once intimate and grand achieves perfection, and the Georgian part of the house possesses uncommon distinction. The completeness, the serenity and the spacious ness in miniature make St. Paul's Walden Bury something unique. This ideal combination is suggested in the first two illustrations of the north front towards the great lawn, from the end of which alleys radiate into woodland. We cannot explore these seductive glades to-day, but should bear their existence in mind as we turn to the house and consider how the perfect unity that they compose came into existence. It is a puzzling question, in answering which conjecture will have to play some part.

The chalk upland south of Hitchin is carved into little valleys, through the largest of which flow the headwaters of the River Mimram. As elsewhere in Hertfordshire the Bury is the name born by the chief place of the manor. This, in the year 888, was given by a certain Wulfgar to St. Alban's Abbey so that it was known as Abbot's Walden. The manor was kept in hand by the abbots; it is recorded that in the 12th century all the cheeses produced at Walden were assigned to the kitchen; and with Codicote it had to supply fifty hens and one pig at Christmas, and one thousand eggs and a pig at Easter to the cellarers. During Wat Tyler's rebellion the Walden tenants gave a good deal of trouble, burned several of the abbey farms and



1.—THE NORTH FRONT FROM THE LAWN

destroyed the cow-house at Walden, though the manor house was saved. Early in the 15th century a large barn was built to contain the tithes of the refectorer. These allusions, while not supporting the tradition that a monastery occupied the site, prove that there were considerable mediæval farmbuildings at the Bury, of which indeed some masonry was found during the rebuilding of the house seventy years ago. In the valley north-eastwards of the house a large fish pond with adjoining stew-pond suggests that the farm also supplied the Abbey with this article of diet.

After the dissolution of the Abbey the manor of Waldenbury was exchanged (1544) by Henry VIII for other lands with the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral, thenceforth bearing its present name. The manor remained with the Dean and Chapter until the Commonwealth, when there is record of the sale of the "mansion house" to Martin Noel, of London. Whether or no the freehold was resumed at the Restoration, it was certainly in the possession of Edward Gilbert at the beginning of the 18th century. Since Gilbert lived till 1762, when he was over 80, it must have been in his time that the garden and Georgian part of the house in large measure took shape.

Little is known of Edward Gilbert but that about 1745 his only child married (as his second wife) George Bowes of Streatlam Castle and Gibside, M.P. for Co. Durham. At Gibside Bowes created a vast landscape park that became famous, employing Paine on altering the house and to build a magnificent mausoleum which was unfinished at his death in 1760 (Country Life, February 8 and 15, 1952). Mary Eleanor, their only daughter and a great heiress, married in 1767 John Lyon, 9th ("the beautiful") Earl of Strathmore, who died in Lisbon in 1776. This marriage united the two names and brought him the Bowes estates, except that St. Paul's Walden was subject to the life interest of Mrs. Bowes. She removed from Gibside to London after her husband's death and had for some years been established at St. Paul's Walden in 1777, when she died following her daughter's disastrous second marriage with the villainous Andrew Robinson Stoney. Mary Eleanor's misfortunes, and her passion for horticulture, will be referred to in connection with the garden next week. Her portrait (Fig. 12) shows her in the garden at the Bury, but it did not belong to her during the period to which the building and its decoration can be assigned. Possibly its completion may have been undertaken with a view to her benefit; indeed the rainwater heads of the north front bear the date of her marriage, which took place at St. Paul's Walden; but the initials on them are her mother's.



2.—THE GEORGIAN FRONT, WITH ITS ROCOCO WINGS, ADDED TO THE EARLIER MANOR HOUSE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE 18th CENTURY



3.—THE DRAWING-ROOM IN THE NORTH-EAST WING, LOOKING NORTH





4.—THE SOUTH END OF THE DRAWING-ROOM, (Right) 5.—THE "MUSIC-ROOM" IN THE WEST WING



6. THE GEORGIAN ENTRY HALL IN THE NORTH FRONT



7.—A PORTRAIT OF LADY ELIZABETH BOWES-LYON BY LASZLO, ABOVE THE SMOKING-ROOM CHIMNEY-PIECE



8.—THE LITTLE LIBRARY

One supposes Gilbert to have been a City man of some wealth; that he was also a man of individual taste is suggested by the way he restored the chancel of St. Paul's Walden Church, the tower of which terminates the northeastern vista of his garden lav-out. On the back of the chancel screen an inscription records that the work was due to him in 1727. Under the 14th-century arch he placed this beautiful Baroque screen of sculptured wood (Fig. 10), and caused the chancel to be redecorated en suite in stucco. Cussans (History of Hertfordshire, 1874) forcibly expresses mid-Victorian opinion of it, and mentions two original features that have disappeared: "a more ruthless desecration it would be difficult to imagine . a hideous triple screen of various coloured marbles [it was presumably painted], well wrought it is true and doubtless costly, but sadly out of proportion in its present position. The style may be described as Jacobean-Monumental-Grecian, the entire structure being apparently designed for the sole purpose of supporting the arms of George II which grace the top." These have been replaced with the Sacred Monogram and the whole is painted white. In point of style the work has affinities with that of Gibbs.

The entrance to the house is in its east side, which was rebuilt in 1887 in an Elizabethan style replacing the older parts. The architect, Castings, proposed Georgian treatment similar to the south front, but the fashionable style of the day was preferred. The Georgian front (Fig. 2), which provided the entrance till 1887, is no more than one



9.—ROSA HOLOFERICEA MULTIPLEX, BY GEO. EHRET, 1752. FROM THE COUNTESS OF STRATHMORE'S FLOWER ALBUM

room deep and was no doubt erected in front of the earlier buildings. It consists in a three-storeyed centre of five bays, spanned by a pediment over its entire width; and polygonal pavilions or short wings of two storeys, of which the roofs are almost suppressed, each with an arched window in its lower storey recessed in a feigned arch. The slight cornices of the wings correspond with the upper string-course of the centre. A thinner stringcourse is carried through the whole composition at the level of the first floor in the wings, though it is broken through by the tall narrow windows in the centre (lowered, to judge from their balconies, c. 1800). The central section. with its wide pediment, closely reproduces that of Kent's design of c. 1730 for the White House at Kew, later Kew Palace, and may well be of that date. The polygonal pavilions which contrast with it so effectively are typical of Rococo design c. 1750-60, recalling the style of Sir Robert Taylor exemplified at Harleyford and Asgill House, Richmond. The broken Rococo line is typified in the recessing of the diagonal facets of the bows, and the consequent kink in the cornice. The south-western bow

has another arched window in its east side, and it breaks back at the rear in two more of these recessed diagonal faces (Fig. 11) to link up with the modern east front which it overlaps. The date on the rainwater heads, 1767, with the initials M.B. of Mary (Gilbert), widow of George Bowes, is presumably that of the completion of the wings. If the central block is contemporary with the garden lay-out (c. 1730), as the evident relationship encourages one to believe, and the wings are later, their architect showed considerable skill in relating them to it. Conceivably the front was designed as a whole c 1767, replacing an earlier one, possibly of the 17th century, of the same proportions, to which the lay-out was related. The interior was evidently decorated c. 1767.

A long entrance hall (Fig. 6) fills the width of the centre, its apsidal ends spanned by a screen of Neo-classical columns beneath a segmental arch. The ceiling has rather slight decoration of Adam type. The room to the west, hung with crimson damask (Fig. 5), was probably designed for a music room, since various instruments are introduced in the ceiling decoration. Its style is very much as Paine paraphrased Adam's style at Brocket c. 1770; and the chimney-piece with its expanding pilasters is of a type which Paine

originated.

The drawing-room, filling the east pavilion, is a beautiful room (Fig. 3). The bows containing the windows to north and east are

repeated in the inner walls, in the southern of which the sumptuous marble chimneypiece, with brass inlay in the lintel, is shaped to the breast's curvature. The ceiling-pattern introduces sphinxes regarding

10.—THE CHANCEL SCREEN IN ST. PAUL'S WALDEN CHURCH, ERECTED BY EDWARD GILBERT, 1727

an urn, with other Neo classical motifs, disposed in geometrical compartments, following the Palladian tradition, all these motifs were similarly combined in Paine's ceilings of c. 1770 at Brocket

The little library adjoins the Georgian range and appears to retain the form given it in the 18th century; but the chimneypiece of a Paine pattern (Fig. 8) has been introduced from an upper room in the north front. It is chiefly interesting, however, as containing the albums of flower paintings collected by Mary Eleanor, Countess of Strathmore, one of which is reproduced (Fig. 9). The portrait of her, with the Bury in the background (before its first-floor windows were lowered), hangs near by. The smoking room, on the west side of the house, cannot be cited as a witness in the case as to dating, since its decoration is modern (Fig. 7); but over its chimney-piece with the Bowes Lyon crest hangs a charming portrait of the Queen Mother when she was Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, by Laszlo:

To summarise the evidence on the Georgian building's history the centre may have been added to the earlier house r. 1730 by Edward Gilbert in relation to the garden lay-out, which seems to have been at least determined by 1725. But the wing pavilions cannot, from their style, be earlier than 1745 and bear the date 1767, which may, however, refer only to their completion by his daughter, Mrs. George Bowes. While their design shows affinities with Robert Taylor, their decoration has so many analogies to the work of Paine, George Bowes's architect at Gibside, that this at least can be attributed to him. It is possible that the wings had been begun earlier,

perhaps by Taylor, but stopped by Edward Gilbert's death in 1762, to be completed and decorated in 1767 by his daughter after she returned as a widow to live at the Bury.

(To be concluded)





11.—THE WEST WING OF THE GEORGIAN FRONT, FROM THE NORTH. (Right) 12.—MARY ELEANOR BOWES, 9th COUNTESS OF STRATHMORE (1749-1800)

### GROWING THE SWEET CHESTNUT

By J. D. U. WARD

AST October the sweet chestnut trees dropped abnormally good crops of fruit, perhaps mainly because the summer and early autumn weather had been so fine and sunny. The chestnut trees in English woods are not special varieties selected as fruit trees, nor are they tended to encourage nut-production; yet those are only minor contributory reasons for the usual poor crops. The major reason is that sweet chestnut (Castanea sativa) is in England far north of its natural latitude. With us the chestnut is the last of all forest trees to flower: the "pipe-cleaners" often do not appear till the latter part of July and sometimes not before August. Thus there is hitle time for the development of fruit. The northern limit of the "natural" range of sweet chestnut has been described as about the middle of France. The species seems originally to have belonged to Asia Minor and to have been introduced into Europe-perhaps in the time of Tiberius, by the Romans, who are presumed to have brought it to Britain. On this latter point there is no proof; we know only that sweet chestnut is not indigenous but that it was here before the Normans came. The rather misleading alternative name of Spanish chestnut derives from imports of the nuts from Spani: French, Itahan or Roman chestnut would be no less appropriate, so far as the actual species and the trees are concerned.

Against this background the chestnut's preference for sunny slopes and its tendency to bear less and less fruit the farther north it is planted will not be surprising. Yet the tree will grow well at least as far north as the Caledonian Canal. Various writers have described as "the largest tree in Scotland" sweet chestnuts at Tynninghame in East Lothian, at Inverary in Argyllshire and at Findhorn in Morayshire—which may tempt some unkind Sassenach to ask "So whair's your Scotch pines now?"

The history and the natural history of the chestnut also explain a hy it is not a more problic natural regenerator and why it has not in something like 1,700 years multiplied more and colonised and established a dominant position in neglected woods. The fact that the nuts are pleasing to both deer and pheasants might have led to careful protection and even to heavy planting at different periods, but does not seem to have done so. Perhaps the edible qualities of the nuts, which are attractive also to pigs and to several rodents, has on balance told against the species. Certainly it has not proved so successful, biologically, as the sycamore.

Yet sweet chestnut is a long lived species, likely to be surpassed only by yew and oak. The Tortworth chestnut in Gloucestershire, the largest and most famous specimen in Britain, is stated by Evelyn to have been a boundary tree in King Stephen's reign. Incidentally, the girth of this



UNEVEN MIXTURE ON A PLANTATION, MOSTLY OF OAK AND SWEET CHESTNUT, IN HEREFORDSHIRE. Chestnut is a faster grower than oak, but is more liable to disease



THE GREAT SWEET CHESTNUT AT CANFORD IN DORSET, ONE OF THE OLDEST OF THE SPECIES IN ENGLAND. The chestnut reaches full maturity at 250-400 years, and a fine specimen can rival the oak in grandeur

tree has often been stated at 52 feet, but expert opinion now holds that this measurement includes two trees grown together, and that 39 ft. or 39 ft. 6 ins. is the most that should be allowed to one. Oddly enough, this is almost exactly the girth of the Canford chestnut in Dorset, sometimes said (quite wrongly) to be mentioned in the Pomesday survey. Some pollard sweet chestnuts at Stourhead in Wiltshire are reputed to be 800 years old. Other places which have famous and ancient sweet chestnut trees include Croft Castle in Heretordshire and Llanvihangel Crucorney in Monmouthshire, but large and handsome trees are not at all rare: there are of course good specimens in the parks of London. Perhaps they receive less admiration for being "only chestnuts" and not oaks.

Either in extreme antiquity or in full maturity (say at 250-400 years)

Either in extreme antiquity or in full maturity (say at 250-400 years) the sweet chestnut commonly develops a rugged grandeur, with heavy and impressive branches where it has had space, fully equal to that of the oak. It is remarkable that the species was not more used by the 18th-century landscape gardeners, especially since it was a favourite with Salvator Rosa, whose paintings are always mentioned among the major influences forming the 18th-century taste for "picturesque" landscape. Sweet chestnut even has some advantage over oak in that its foliage is more emphatic and (some would say) more handsome, and its autumn colour is better. But doubtless the unrivalled prestige of oak—a native species held in the highest esteem as a source of the best timber and having unique ties of sentiment—must often have led to decisions against sweet chestnut.

Chalk seems to be sweet chestnut's first antipathy, but acid peat and heavy clays are others. It is happy enough in sand or gravel, if not too poor, but likes best a well-drained loam (rather less rich than the ideal for oak or ash) in a mild position. Two of the chief failings of sweet chestnut—ink disease and ring-shake in mature timber—seem usually though not always to be associated with unsatisfactory soils and sites. Ink disease, caused by the fungus *Phylopthora cambivora*, quite commonly kills. The tendency to ring shake—splitting round the growth rings increases with age, and there are many places where the trees keep sound up to 50 or 60 years but develop shakes from that time on.

This liability to shake might be described as the other side of one useful quality of the timber. It cleaves extremely well. Hence its special utility and high value for making split-chestnut fencing. In parts of Kent, Sussex and to a less extent Hampshire and the West Midlands chestnut is commonly grown as a coppice crop, to produce poles—particularly for the hopfields. The normal rotation varies from about ten to

eighteen years, there were reports ten years ago of £150 an acre being paid for a 15-yearold crop for hop-poles. About the same time 12-year-old crops were said to command £100 an acre for split-chestnut fencing Before the war £10 would have been a more likely figure for either or both. Well-kept stools are said to last for 100 years or

Despite the greater strength of oak, and the plentiful supplies available in former times chestnut was occasionally used for work of the first importance The timbers of Westminster Hall, for long reputed to be of chestnut, were eventually proved to be of oak, but a small part of the late 13th-century roofing on St. Alban's Abbey, now the cathedral, is indeed of chestnut, as are also the roofs of the cloisters and the cheese room at Winchester College There is a tradition that spiders (who have no objection to oak will not weave their webs on chestnut timber, and there seems to be some truth in this notion But the writer must confess that he has made no examination for cobwebs on, for example, Ledbury Market Hall, which stands on sixteen

pillars of chestnut from Malvern Chace and dates from 1633, or on the chestnut pillars of Wingham church in Kent

Chestnut timber is in many of its qualities only 20 per cent, inferior to oak and it is widely used as a substitute especially by coffin makers and by coopers. On the estate it is a suitable timber for posts, stakes and gates, but it does not take preservative well. Ladder-rungs and chair-legs (particularly the latter) are among other common articles of chestnut. It is a poor firewood but can be made into good charcoal.

Despite its many and varied uses, its beauty and the fact that it is a soil improver, sweet chestnut does not seem to have been warmly recommended in our own time by writers on silviculture other than C. P. Ackers in Practical British Forestry. But Mr. Ackers's suggestion for its greater use in mixtures may be of special interest to many people at the present time, when the tide of fashion and favour is tending towards mixtures and hardwoods and away from single-species conifer plantations. Chestnut is normally a faster grower, as well as less greedy in its soil demands than oak, and







SWEET CHESTNUT COPPICE IN KENT ON A 16-YEAR ROTATION. The wood is often used for hop-poles. (Right) CHESTNUT PLANTATION AT DUNSTER IN SOMERSET

thus stands a better chance of keeping up with farch and one or two other comfers. As it is also (like oak and ash) a ring porous species, the faster it grows within reason the better its timber is. (For conifers or softwoods the rule

is normally the opposite)
But no one should plant sweet chestnut on a large scale without carefully weighing the risk of chestnut blight, or bark cancer, as the Italians prefer to call it, coming to this island. This deadly and infectious disease was carried to North America from Asia, and within eight years had done over £8,000,000 worth oldamage. Since then the American sweet chestnut has been virtually enalicated from hundreds of thousands of square nules. The disease has appeared in the Iberian Peninsula, where it seems to be less deadly, and in Italy, where it has caused the gravest concern as a real threat of starvation. In Britain we are many of us inclined to take an insular view of our plants and trees, so it may be worth mentioning that Italy has between 11 and 2 million acres under sweet chestnut, and the nuts themselves form a major part of the people's diet in the chief chestnut-growing areas

In some places chestnut branches cut when fully feaved are used to make rough roots for goat buts and small storage sheds, just as straw

might be used for thatch in corn-growing areas The position of the chestnut in some Mediter ranean regions was once neatly summarised by an observer in the words. Where the corn ends, the chestnuts begin. That is, chestnuts Where the corn are of first importance on slopes just above the cornfield areas and on rocky ground. Incidentally, the important use of the fruit of a true forest tree is itself worthy of note as something exceptional, pine seeds of various kinds are collected for food in different parts of Europe and North and South America, but, in general, the major food trees " are usually of the smaller kinds.

The origin of the use of the word "chest for a stale joke has puzzled many people For this meaning the Shorter Oxford Dictionary gives 1886 as the first recognised date, but L. J. F. Brimble, in his Trees in Britain, says that it derives from "an old play, The Broken Sword, by William Dillon." Two men argue as to whether the tree in a certain story was a chestnut tree or a cork tree, and one of them at length says. "A chestnut. I have heard you tell the joke twenty seven times, and I am sure it was a chestnut. Attempts to verify this fully have not succeeded, but it appears that the author's name was Dimond and not Dillon, and that The Broken Sword was first published



THE CHESTNUT PILLARS IN WINGHAM CHURCH, KENT. Chestnut timber is in many respects only 20 per cent, inferior to oak (Right) SPLIT CHESTNUT FENCING MATERIAL IN KENT. Chestnut cleaves extremely well and makes good fencing

#### **NEW BOOKS**

# THE ARCHITECTURE OF ITALY

is a curious fact that the produc tion of much of the world's greatest art and architecture took place in periods of political turmoil witnes the Renaissance in Italy Perhaps an atmosphere of tension inspires archi-tects, sculptors and painters. At all events, Italy, which has in the past had more influence on art and architecture outside its own boundaries than any other country, is once again than any other country, is once again in the van of architectural thought and progress, in spite of a disastrous defeat in the second World War and a subsequent period of domestic troubles that are by no means at an end. In Haly Builds (Architectural Press, 56s.) G. E. Kidder Smith, a practising American architect, has described and illustrated Italy's recent architectural achievement and also the architectural achievement and also the architecture of the past whose splendid traditions it perpetuates. The book, which is in both English and Italian, is illustrated with numerous plans and scores of excellent photographs, many by the author. One's only regret is that some of them could not have

been reproduced larger!

At the beginning of the book
Mr. Kidder Smith defines the Italian
rural scene and its regional buildings,
extending from the timber structures of the Alpine north to the curious trulli with their rectangular bases and one-shaped roofs in the south. He then goes on to describe the attributes of the urban scene—the squares, the fountains, the streets, the arcades. His analysis of twelve famous squares is particularly penetrating, and make one look at even such a familiar sight as the Piazza San Marco at Venice with new vision. From these well edited examples of Italy's past one goes on to the second half of the book, which is devoted to the buildings of the present, with a brief backward glance at the architecture of Musso lini's time

#### Originality and Virility

As one turns the pages and sees the photographs, which embrace almost every kind of building, one is mereasingly aware of the originality and virility of the designs, of the good made of new materials and the nev forms that they encourage. Many of these buildings are extraordinarily exciting—the covered market at Pescia, for example, or the Govern-ment salt warehouses at Tortona. The engineering is superb, and it seems that the architects whose work is reproduced are incapable of producing a dull façade. It is apparent, however and Mr. Kidder Smith does not hesitate to say so—that the planning of some of the buildings is surprisingly bad, especially in working-class flats magnificent elevations, but with little privacy, no cupboards, tiny kitchens numerous floors and no lifts. Further more, it seems that many towns con-sider it "sufficient to put the buildings

sider it "sufficient to put the buildings up, not keep them up."

Nevertheless, there can be no doubt that Italy, despite internal strife and poverty of materials, is undergoing an immense architectural renaissance and this "provocative risorgimento," as the author calls it, is admirably portrayed in both words and pictures in Italy Buildi.

R.G. N.

#### TEACHER OF THE BLIND

AT the age of 19 months Helen Keller became deaf and blind. When she was 6, a young teacher from When she was 6, a young teacher from the Perkins Institution for the Blind in Boston, Annie Sullivan, was engaged for her. This association lasted for 50 years, until Miss Sullivan's death in 1936, during those fifty years Helen Keller took a degree, wrote articles and books, and worked untiringly for the blind all over the world. In Teacher (Gollancz, 15s.) she Teacher (Gollancz, 15s.) she

describes her relationship with Miss Sullivan, from the moment when, on associating the feel of water splashing hand with the letter pressed into the palm of "w.a-t-e-r" pressed into the palm of the other, she entered the world of words and meaning, of literature and thought. Though Annie Sullivan was half blind herself, she used her eves unmercifully and towards the end of her life became entirely blind. She had a strong character, and her teaching methods were inspired by a belief that the blind and deaf should

a belief that the blind and deaf should compete with the rest of the world on equal terms; thus she would not allow Helen Keller to complete her education at the Perkins Institution but in-sisted that she went to college in the

and deaf, are due to the remarkable teacher whose patience and vision brought her gifts to fulfilment.

#### AN EMPEROR'S ADVICE ON FALCONRY

PREDERICK II of Hohenstaulen (1194-1250), Holy Roman Emperor, King of Sicily and Jerusalem, was one of the most interesting and versatile men of his time. Philosophy, mathematical interesting and versatile men of his time. matics and natural history were matics and natural history were his favourite studies, and architecture, law and medicine felt his influence. But the great passion of his life was falcoury—so much so that at least once over-indulgence in it cost him a battle-and southern Italy and Sicily

APARTMENT HOUSE AT TARANTO. An illustration from Italy Builds by G. E. Kidder Smith, reviewed on this page

She was as realistic Helen Keller herself, who says of her Teacher was among those who first perceived the harmful nature of the chief stumbling block to the sightless—pity." Both teacher and pupil shunned sentimentalism—but, were

shunned sentimentalism—but, were there no pity in the world, would the seeing trouble to help the blind? One of the remarkable features about this book is the way in which Helen Keller uses words of sight and hearing as though she could herself see and hear. She says of another book. "It was a genuine pleasure for me to show how I could get fun out of playing with words whose meaning could guess only from analogy and imagination. This word-play can be verdone, as when she says of Annie: Her words would slide through the child's hand like tiny meteors ar create shining furrows of initiative But the facts that Helen Keller both plays with words and uses them per-suasively, that she can speak without having heard, that she has travelled

were dotted with his hawking residences. In the last years of his reign he set out the results of a lifetime of experience and observation of falconry in the six books of his famous treatise in the six books of his famous treatise, De Arte Venandi cum Anbus. An edited translation of this, entitled The Art of Falconry, by Casey A. Wood and F. Marjorie Fyfe, was published in 1943 by the Oxford University Press, who have now issued a new edition, price 6 gns. Frederick II not only had the benefit of employing the best European falconers, but also only had the benefit of employing the best Enropean falconers, but also could draw on the experience of those past masters—the Arabs—and it was from them that he learned of the hood and its use, which he claims to have been the first to introduce to Western Varieties.

Europe. He died before he finished all he set out to write, for the books do not treat of the short-winged hawks or of the ailments of hawks, with which he declares he intended to deal. Book I contains an absorbing account of the structure and habits of birds. Books II to VI deal with the birds of prey used in hawking—their care and man-ning, the use of the lure and hood; crane and heron hawking with gyrfalcons, sakers and peregrines; and finally with hawking at the brook with peregrines (the modern game hawking).

#### Sound Instruction

The Emperor's advice and instructions are, on the whole, as sound to-day as they were 700 years ago. Having had a modicum of success at game-hawking. I found his statements on nawking, I found its statements on waiting-on' (possibly the most diffi-cult branch of the whole art) positively uncanny. But if the beginner should read this treatise, as I hope he will, let him not be too depressed by Frederick II's requirements in a falconer. Should such a paragon exist, he would be a model for any calling. Let him also be wary of the Emperor's advice with regard to cheese as makeshift food for a falcon, and in the chapter on the diseases of hawks added by the editors, let him beware of the alieged remedy for the dreaded frounce. If the unfortunate hawk recovers, it will in my opinion be in

Under the heading Appended Material the defices have included useful chapters on a variety of topics, among them modern falconry (up to 1939), the trapping of hawks, diseases and accidents of hawks, and the mews and its accessories

The Art of Falconry is profusely illustrated with well-chosen pictures, but three of these call for comment. In Plate 66 the bird shown is a female goshawk, not a falcon; and what a monstrosity of a hood the poor Diane wears in Plate 124! Last, in Plate 121, reproduced on the dust-cover, a falcon is depicted on a bow perch, when as every beginner knows, a block is her proper resting-place; only shortwings should be on a bow perch. But per-haps this is a necessary licence to show more clearly the exquisite shape of a peregrine.

However, these are minor criticisms of an otherwise excellent work which should be a treasured addition to any bookshelf and a necessity for falconers and ornithologists.

#### YORK PAST AND PRESENT

AMONG the vast literature of histories, surveys and guides devoted to the city of York none is more outstanding than J. B. Morrell's The City of Our Dreams, published originally in 1940 and now expanded and revised in a new edition (St. Anthony's Press, 50s.) With its magnificent collection of photographs and plans the volume offers a sort of catalogue raisonne not only of every significant building—considered architecturally, historically considered architecturally, historically and socially—but of recent designs for the redevelopment of the city in the future. Since the first edition was published considerable public works have been carried out. The Halls of the Merchant Taylors and the Merchant Adventurers have been restored; part of the Shambles has been renovated Bootham, Monk and Micklegate Bars have been repaired; the Debtors' Prison has been renovated and now forms a valuable addition to the Castle Museum. York has also come to recog-nise the magnificence of the Assembly Rooms and the Art Gallery has been transformed almost beyond recogni-

These and many other developments have all called for revision of the book itself, and so have the many plans for developments contemplated but not yet carried out, which appear in the new edition as drawings by Mr. R. J. Sawyer. Particularly notable are the plans for a "cultural centre" and improvements along the river bank suggested by Professor Adshead. In explaining and illustrating York's administrative industrial, educational architectural and social developments. its problems and its projects, Mr. Morrell has held steadily in view his city's progress in building up a fully integrated community. E. B.

# STUDY THE INSTRUCTION BOOK!

By J. EASON GIBSON

WATCHING the mechanics in a friend's service station working on a customer's car about a fortnight ago reminded me of the saying, "out of sight, out of mind." The car in question had obviously been well looked after, as far as external appearance was concerned but only a glance under the bonnet was needed to suggest that this care did not extend to the mechanical side. The manager of this garage said that he was constantly worried by the fact that, unless motorists were received individually by a senior member of his staff, they tended to ask for service in the vaguest terms. He felt that if this habit was general there must be many cars in the country which never had any service other than a straightforward greasing and washing. There are, of course, many other items requiring regular attention, and there are, I think, many car owners with only the slightest appreciation of the risk of the serious trouble they are running by neglecting proper main-

One very important part of the car which is too often neglected is the oil filter, incorporated in the lubrication system. On many cars the oil filter is fitted with a replaceable element, which should be changed at regular intervals; but I have seen many discarded filter elements which have obviously been retained in use for many thousands of miles more than was recommended, or wise. It is such items that tend to be forgotten by motorists, when giving service instructions to their garage. Owing to the habit among motorists of just saying, "Grease all nipples," there is a possibility that such parts as the steering box and the universal joints will be neglected, and once neglected they may be forgotten until some trouble is experienced.

Partly, perhaps, because the average motorist's awe of the electrical side of his car's specification, such items as the sparking plugs and the contact breaker tend to be neglected, possibly on the theory that if everything is working all right it is best to leave well alone. This is far from correct. It is much better to have the sparking plugs and the contact breaker cleaned regularly, and have their points adjusted to the correct clearance. divergent views on the subject of changing the sparking plugs at intervals one school of thought holds that they should be changed at approximately 10,000-mile intervals. This is, perhaps, hardly necessary in the case of a car which receives regular attention to its plugs, but the motorist who prefers to run his car for about the mileage I have mentioned without cleaning or adjusting the sparking plugs must, I think, agree to fit a new set after that.

For these reasons I would always urge

For these reasons I would always urge motorists to study the instruction book supplied with their car, so that they can appreciate how many more details require attention than just the grease nipples. Only a little study is necessary to convince one that, when one next leaves one's car for service, one must ask for more than the usual minimum.

#### Compulsory Vehicle Tests

The Minister of Transport, who recently announced that it was intended to take powers to test vehicles over ten years old, has emphasised the unlikelihood of such a regulation coming into force for another twelve or eighteen months. This will enable him to collect more information on the practical problems of the scheme and, perhaps, give him the opportunity to have second thoughts on some details. Most people who have had the opportunity of examining many cars and appreciating how low the mechanical standard is will welcome the scheme; but there are many who feel that the proposed arbitrary division at ten years is not right. It has been suggested by the proud users of some pre-war cars that they keep them in much better condition than do many owners of current models. That may well be so, but only I think, in isolated cases. There seems little doubt that as a general rule the older cars are in the worse mechanical condition, although I must agree that I see many current models on the road which, were I in the position to do so, I would condemn as unroadworthy. Because so many motorists run their cars for business reasons and find it economical to change them at yearly intervals, there is undoubtedly a tendency to neglect proper maintenance, in the hope that the cars will last the required year without any cost other than the normal running and overhead expenses.

Because of all this there is a large body of opinion which considers that the Minister should take powers to carry out spot checks on cars of any age. Even if this power were seldom exercised, there is little doubt that knowledge of its existence would act as a deterrent and, perhaps, help to raise the general standard of maintenance. There is no denying that many people run cars which they can ill afford, and which they neglect because of the constant problem of expense. From the purely motoring point of view one can only regret such thoughtlessness, but as the question of safety is

In view of the surprising number of cars one meets on the road with one sidelight not working—to make matters worse it usually seems to be the right-hand one—I think the habit of running with dipped headlights justified; the diffused light will certainly be sufficient to show that what one has assumed to be an approaching bicycle or motor-bicycle is, in fact, a car. I think there is a slight suggestion of conceit about many of those motorists who argue so strongly against headlights being used, adopting the pose that their vision is so good that headlights are not required.

#### Precautions Against Theft

I understand that theft from cars, and the stealing of cars themselves, is increasing sharply throughout the country, and accordingly many police forces recommend that cars should always be locked when they are left unattended. It is, perhaps, more important to see that briefcases, parcels or clothing are kept well out of sight. I know I have very mixed feelings about the wisdom of locking my car, after having once witnessed a fire in a city street, caused by an





AN UNUSED AND A MISUSED OIL FILTER ELEMENT COMPARED. The filter element should be changed before it becomes clogged

involved it becomes necessary for some authority to prevent the drivers in question from allowing their irresponsibility to involve others.

#### Headlight or Sidelights?

Motorists are given much conflicting advice on a variety of subjects. Two which I have heard discussed very vehemently recently were whether one should use the headlights when motoring in suburban and so-called lighted streets, and whether one should lock one's car before leaving it parked in a town street. There are many drivers who consider it wrong to use the headlights in any place where street lighting, however inefficient, is provided. I have myself been rebuked by a policeman for driving in a built-up area with the headlights on, in the dipped position, on the ground that they were unnecessary. This seems to me to be a peculiar attitude for anyone to take. Surely, every driver should use the amount of light he thinks necessary, and, provided he retains the headlights in the dipped position—if they are correctly adjusted—he cannot possibly cause annoyance to other motorists. In certain other countries it is common practice to use the head lights, even when driving in lighted streets, and, in view of the large number of badly lit or unlit bicycles one sees on the road it is, in my opinion, a wise safeguard

electrical short on a parked car. The damage to the locked car which was burning was probably no more than it would have been anyway, but what I found worrying was that other cars were parked close to it and in danger of catching fire I believe that in the City of London motorists are discouraged from locking their cars because of this special risk in the confined streets.

Perhaps the best solution of this problem is to keep any loose articles locked in the luggage boot, leave the car itself unlocked and employ one of the thief-proof devices now on the market. This can take the form of a master switch, which completely cuts off the supply of electricity to the starter and the ignition circuit, or can be in the form of a combination lock mounted on the fascia. This lock can be set so that the engine cannot be started without one's first adjusting the combination to the correct position, and any tampering with the combination will cause a fuse to blow. One can always use the old-fashioned method of immobilising the car by removing the rotor arm from the distributor, but this is an irksome and messy task compared with the mere turning of a master switch. One advantage of leaving a car unlocked is, of course, that it can be moved easily by any other motorist whom it might be preventing from freeing his own car from a line of parked cars.

# BLUES AT FORMBY - A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

OW pleasant to see Formby again! If all is well on this March 15, I shall be there watching the dinner match which precedes the Oxford and Cambridge match. It is one which puts a horribly heavy responsibility on the four combatants, conscious of their fellows looking anxiously on and wondering whether their bank accounts, perilously near to being overdrawn at the end of term, will stand the strain of defeat

Formby is a very old friend of mine and one to which I feel especial gratitude. If it had not been for Formby and for my incle (in the King's Regiment) having learned golf there and taken it with him at Aberdovey, I might never as much as have swining a club. I knew it first at the end of last century, when I went fouring there with the Society. It was in one respect a different place then, for the sandhills were bare and bleak and not covered with the Ir woods that to day give the links something of an air of Le Touquet. But it had the same peculiar quality that still belongs to it, the mysterious charm of holes that run between sandy hillsides down level valleys. All the courses in this part of Lancashire have something of it, but none perhaps is quite so rich in it as Formby.

I wrote something the other day of the passing bell that we used to ring on leaving the blind green before adventuring into that hidden country. We now ring it no more, because instead of a blind hole in a crater there is an admirable short hole perched defiantly in the air, but that sensation of setting out on an awfully big adventure survives. I must not exaggerate this characteristic of the course, because there is plenty of more open country, but I like best to remember the valleys that give one the boyishly romantic feeling that there might be enemies in ambush behind a bush on either bank.

The University match has been played here once before in 1934. Certainly its turn has come round again, and it is to be hoped that all the Old Blues, who live in the North and have been crying bitterly for a sight of the match, will now turn up to watch it. I am a little dim about the match of 1934, though I undoubtedly watched it and saw Oxford with by two points. They had at least two golfers who have come to great distinction since. J. J. F. Pennink and A. A. Duncan—while P. B. Lucas had just not begun his all conquering career for Cambridge. That which I do recall with a now half-amused agony was the match between G. R. A. Jamieson, of Cambridge, and E. H. Moss, of Oxford, in which the Cambridge man, having been as

nearly as might be dormy at the turn, scrambled home against a gallant adversary by holing an enumently missable part at the 17th

an eminently missable putt at the 17th Oxford won and all the best prophets say they will win again after five barren years at It does seem a little ironical that this year, when Oxford's hopes are so high and their captain, Hugh Impey, lives at Ryc, that the match should go elsewhere, but I am far from grudging the match to Formby, nor shall I grudge victory to Oxford if they gain it. I have got to make a forecast, then I think they will, and they might even win easily, but I am far from giving up all hope of Cambridge and if the truth be told, I don't know as much about the players as I should like. The cruel weather has blotted out some of the most important trial matches, such as that of Oxford against the League (Raymond Oppenheimer's last match, alas!, in charge of that formidable side), and I myself have been cooped indoors ever since the President's Putter

I saw Oxford play and beat a strong Society side at Southfield when they did impress me very much. Cambridge I saw monly a rather more elementary stage, and I could form only a very vague opinion. It looks to me that if Cambridge are to make a close thing of it. then their two top players, and very good players they are, Marsh and O'Brien, have got to be at their very best. If they fail I fancy their side will be in a bad way, and they may perfectly well fail without any grievous fault for they will have opponents emphatically worthy of them. One is always apt to pick out one duel to be really memorable in the annals of University matches, and sometimes the two great ones do not meet after all and sometimes it is a disappointment when they do. De Zoete and Henderson, Johnny Bramston and Norman Hunter these will sound stirring only in ancient ears; White and Middleton, Langley and Scott, Huddy and Pitamber in more

Now for this year the obvious match is Alec Shepperson, of Oxford, against David Marsh, of Cambridge. I am not proposing to prophesy: Shepperson is the more elegant and accomplished golfer of the two, the most finished player on either side, but Marsh has really great power. His feats with long iron clubs make the narrators' eyes pop out of their heads, and he is capable of great spurts of brilliancy. He is likewise capable of wild, bad spells, and there you are. His length might be crushing, but Shepperson is not in the least short. Both must know the course well, for

Marsh's home is near by, at Southport, and Shepperson was in the final of the Boys' Championship at Formby four years ago. Pay your money and take your choice.

money and take your choice.

If Impey, the Oxford captain, and O'Brien play second there is another good match: Impey extremely calm and sound and painstaking, O'Brien, I should say, the better of the two on his best day, but a little less reliable. His stock has dropped a little ever since Shepperson beat him heavily at Rye last year. After these two we come, as I am inclined to think or lear, to some Oxford wins. Foster is one of those invaluable persons who keep on hitting the ball, especially with irons, and his putting, which was weak, is said to have improved. Marr is very long and hits the ball beautifully on the green, at any rate when I watch him, a natural player of games such as is always to be feared.

Another Oxford player for whom I have a respect, though he has never quite done himself justice, is Malcolm Peal, and Lawrence and the freshman Proctor are good. Whom have we to set against them? Well, Muscutt had a good, almost a brilliant match last year, though he faded a hitle when the holes began to drop away. He comes from St. Anne's, a good school. Grindrod looks very steady and well controlled; Pilling has a good swing and ought to do better than he has hitherto; Strang is a rackets player, and a rackets player is always apt to be dangerous, though the last time I saw him he had got his game into rather a tangle. Chapman and Churchill are both freshmen of some promise, but on the whole, as far as my imperfect knowledge goes, I must plump for Oxford.

Whatever happens it will be good fun and now as a postscript I want to say a word about another course where I have had good fun and about an old friend there. Everyone who has been to Westward Ho! must have pleasant recollections of his welcome from Granville Kelly, who has served the Royal North Devon Club for 51 years, first as assistant steward and then for the last 26 years as steward. Ill health compels him to retire, and it is thought that many of those who have been visitors at Westward Ho! may like to join the members in their parting offering to him, to be administered for his and his wife's benefit in their retirement. I venture respectfully to commend it, and will add that this wonderful record of long service will not be broken, since Kelly's son. Sidney, long his assistant, will succeed him.

### GHOSTS OF A GARDEN

By G. RIDSDILL SMITH

THE thought of leaving my garden, on approaching retirement, oppresses me from time to time. Its design was a wedding present to the young pair who built the house 60 years ago and created beauty on that tare as re of clay with hedges of yew, box and holly, pleached lime afleys, a pergola, clumps of trees and flowering shrubs, an orchard and lawn. That acre was once part of a field called Great Sowleys, where doubtless the fifty page of Dramestlay Book picked up their paimage.

In the beginning it may have been the marine home of such fossils as the mechanical excitator, cutting a twelve-foot drain across it. Threw up last year, and, many centuries later, a desirable hunting lodge, well wooded and with suntherly aspect, for palacolithic man from the valley, whose flint tools and weapons the curious robin sees me dig up, along with this rentury a relics of my own and my predecessor's balders.

The garden is peopled with memories, happy ghosts of the hours spent in work and play there to be seen and apprehended only by loyers of gardens and lovers of children 1 should like to think that "They" will appear to the initiates, as they did to Kipling—a bobbing of heads at the barred nursery windows, a

flicker of curls and green and brown corduroy in the great laurustimus behind the swing, a half seen exiberant swinger (and singer) shaking down white and pink chestnut petals to form, with those of the idac, faded to blue, a tricolour pool on the lawn (forever linked in my mind with VE, Day, when I saw it again after say years of war). I should like to think that other children may climb to the ageing tree-house and wonder who scrawled on its door the half legible, by then unintelligible, Nutts Corner, who cooked what on the broken brick oven below taineled over with ivy and periwinkle.

To the hearing car the lawn must echo sounds of many a game—click of box or willow, ping of gut and the thindring feet of the players and corgi following up fike a polo pony. So too the terrace on top of the grass bank, down which generations of children have rolled and ridden on wagon or tricycle or bike, must be murmurous as the bees in the honeysuckle, climbing the walls, with the talk of grown upsoverfooking the play and the blue ridge of forest beyond the holly hedge, and the shade of the flowering ash with tinkle of tea cups and youthful clamour for food. Past the deck chairs and the tall clipped yew birds, pride of amateur topiary achieved at the risk of many a fall, the

remains of a little house cut in the purple heart of a dogwood bush will whisper those daylong fairy tales told there to the dolls—unless a whit of shag breaks the spell and the scratch of a hoe draws the eye away to a gardener resuming his task among the roses. That bent back may belong to any of these who have worked this soil, helping or hindering Adam and his deft-fingered Eye, and hung up the tools that survive them in the dark potting shed where earthy oaths hinger for the number of times heads have cracked and knuckles been barked on its low narrow doors.

barked on its low harrow doors.

Is it the ghost of the old farm labourer coming words as he "podges" about the garden, tidying "unlected" corners, pronouncing the ground too "paunchy" to dig or just nicely "hazelled" on top, recalling how wheat "jingled" in when they drilled and pags chanked" their food and the master got all "areated when things went wrong? Perhaps it's the verger-gardener, with six elder sisters and six younger sisters, known in the village as the sandwich-man? The ex-trooper of Greys who hissed as he clipped his hedges; or the Boer War veteran, more at home in the woods by might than the garden by day? I like to think it is this last for he knew all the nesting

birds by sight, garden-bred, garden-fed, giving thanks on spring dawns in rapturous roundelay.

Will the song of that blackbird I first noted down one golden evening twenty years ago, and still recognise from his progeny, flute on for ever? Will that one nightingale still sing in the orchard, just to tell us he's come, before moving on to a more secret site in the hedge at the end of the field? Will martins chatter all night like little mice in the new-made nests under eaves? When the lawn's not in play will the flycatcher pirouette from post to post and the digging woodpecker flaunt his crimson crest? Will wagtail strut, starling waddle and thrush go a-worming while jays and magpies jeer from the trees and the tom-tit somersaults in and

When the birds are silent and moths and bats take the air will period music, fresh as the Wand of Youth, serene as that Enigma theme of the music-makers, those dreamers of dreams, still steal out through the open windows to mingle with waves of colour and scent from the glimmering flowers? Flowers-those rightful citizens of the garden, whether they got there by gift or theft, seedsman's pac at or sown by the winds and birds, each with its lineage in lordly Latin or cottage English, yet betraying by some trick of flower-face or curl of leaf its native woodland or moor or field. Only the Gardener knows all their secrets, but in cheering and healing they are potent as ever, and the stranger who wanders here in the inclodius dusk will have a foretaste of those gardens of

the Celestral Country where pilgrims rest to the sound of bells ringing over the water.

Thus past and present are linked with future, but for me the near future holds this dread parting. Must it be a funereal exit by car, convoying the last removal van out through the white gate arched over with ash trees into the lane? Could it not be swift and sweet, on the back of a certain black hunter all fresh from Elysian Fields, cantering down the grass path by the borders and over the trim holly hedge (most tempting of jumps), spurring on down the valley with never a glance behind, only the scream of wind and drumming of hoofs in my cars and the ecstasy of speed in my heart, till Lethe be crossed and the Forest of Forgetfulness

### CORRESPONDENCE

#### ARCHITECTURE TO-DAY

STR.—In your interesting appraisal of modern buildings in London (March I) you write: "Of Architecture in the traditional sense and with a capital A there may be said to be none. The new buildings of to-day are essetially, and often admirably, negative I think I should deny that these build-

suppose that the only school which has consistently and nationally studied buildings as exercises in pro-portion is the Classical. The modern if a building fulfils some practical purpose it will automatically be-beautiful; just as modern historians often assume that, if you throw facts often assume that, if you throw facts together dispassionately, they will somehow turn into history. But it is the reconciliation of usefulness and

the reconcilation of usefulness and beauty, the patient moulding of shapes until they please the eye, that alone constitutes architecture. Alberti, after all, races through the topics of utility and structural firmness that he may dwell on the exhaustive study of correct proportion, to him the "most worthy and necessary" subject of all. Because of recent scepticism and positivism, many would deny that correct proportion exists, or that it was glimpsed by the Classical architects. Yet I believe Alberti was right to reply that the ignorant, when they do not know some-

Do our new needs require a brand new architecture? Have mod ern materials really made symmetry Or, when we are not engaged in the distinctive but, one hopes overcrowding and cultural

unlike those of a century ago?
Architects mistakenly think that with the word and the inhuman. The better one knew one's London, the more easily can one lose one's way in the present town. Bucklersbury House and the Festival Hall are equally amorphous, and much of the interand amorphous, and much of the one-vering area has been laid out in a manner that forbids close inspection remembrance. HUGH or accurate remembrance. HUGH Prummer, The Museum of Classical Archaeology, Cambridge.

#### WILD GEESE IN HAMPSHIRE

Sir, On the morning of March 4. I was taking a few friends for a drive. and turned over Ibsley Bridge, in Hampshire, crossing the Avon (a spot beloved by the late Major Jarvis), and yards from the bridge, over five hundred wild geese were sitting con-tentedly in the sunlight. An occasional one leisurely rose and circled round, passing low over our heads, honked and then rejoined the others. It was a magnificent sight. —F. G. CHERRY, Hournemonth,

#### JOE BASSETT AT WORK

Sir. - Apropos of the editorial note Wood-und Mischief (February 16). Joe Bassett is the name given hereabouts to the larva of the cock-chafer. Some years ago, when hving in the beautiful Vale of Usk, we had an astonishing demonstration of the energy and destructive power of these grubs. In a garden that had not long before been made out of old pasture land we were inspecting some half-grown French beans. One of the plants was observed to be swaying from side



THE BUTTERCROSS ABBOTS BROMLEY. AND STAFFORDSHIRE

motionless. It seemed to demand closer investigation, so a trowel was COUNTENUES, Wythwood, Lark field-road, Farnham, Surrey

#### PIRATE GULLS

Six, My house overlooks the sea on visits was that they were each accom-panied for most of the time by a smaller kind of seaguil than our comsometimes making half-hearted runs at the prewits and sometimes flying

gull was ready for another titbut
M. H. Swallow, Thindestone, Devon
The pirate gulls were black
headed gulls in winter plumage—En

#### OUENCHING THEIR THIRST

Sin. During the recent cold spell water has been a problem in most cases through burst pipes. To birds

and beasts it brings another hardship, from frozen supplies. The enclosed photograph shows how rats overcame their trouble in a provender mill. On the top floor the normal water supply in the guttering was frozen, and the only other water was under the null three floors below. The pellet-making machinery caused enough heat for condensation on the windows, however, providing an alternative supply of moisture which the rats were soon to Scratch marks can be seen where they tried to reach further up the glass Andrew Paron, Guildford, Surrey

#### VILLAGE FOCUS

The accompanying photograph shows two medicival buildings in the village of Abbots Bromley Stafford shire. The one nearer the camera is the Buttercross—agrey-roofed, open struc-ture mounted on seven wooden pillars Behind it stands the Goat's Head Inn a black and white building of great antiquity. It owes its name to a herd of wild goats introduced to the neigh-bouring Baget's Park in the reign of Richard H. Tradition says that the inn was formerly the town hall, but it is difficult to find proof. G. M. PAUL (Miss), 43. Salterton-road, Exmouth

#### AN OLD TRICK RECONSIDERED

Sir. Some years ago I had a some what similar experience to that described by Mr W Kenneth Rich mond in your issue of January 26. While I was walking beside the Tweed While I was walking beside the Tweed in Peeblesshire a moorhen got up almost at my feet, dived into the river and book refuge under a clump of rashes, where I thought that I could see it. So I sat down to note how long it would remain there before having to come up to breathe. After some minutes without anything happening. I concluded that I had been mistaken and pulled up from below the rushes what I had supposed to be the bird. And indeed, it was the bird, but duite ipert and apparently. bird, but quite inert and apparently



WINDOW IN A MILL FROM THE LOWER PART OF WHICH RATS HAD LICKED THE CONDENSATION DURING THE COLD SPELL The scratches show where they had tried to reach higher

See letter Quenching Their Thirst

dead, or at any rate unconscious. I placed it on the bank, where it lay for some time showing no sign of recovery. So I left it where it was and continued my walk.

I knew that rabbits will sometimes stay in a hole and be eaten by a ferret rather than bolt when it is raining, and concluded that here was another case of an animal being guided by instinct rather than by reason

On repassing the spot I decided to examine the "dead" bird, but was much surprised to find that the bird had flown. W. Balfolk Gourlay, 7, Millington-road, Cambridge.

#### BIRDS OF PARADISE IN THE WEST INDIES

SIR. Some years ago you published an article describing my father's attempt to establish birds of paradise on the island of Lattle Tobago. The following note, from The West India Committee Circular of October, 1955, may therefore be of interest as showing that after a period of 46 years

cleven birds still survive on the island.
The note runs as follows. "When sir William established the bird of Paradise sanctuary on Little Tobago in 1909 be introduced 47 of the birds.

tombs on lonely hilltops (45 were located in 1932) which inspired the classical legend that the Soillies were the isles of the dead. The excavation in recent years of dwelling-sites of those times has, however, disproved it, though watching night fall over neighbouring Round Island, mentioned by Mr. Grigson, an experience recalled by his happy phrase "outer edge of peace," suggests how such a myth came into being.—Margaret Jones (Mrs.), 32, Forest-road, Moseley, Birmingham, 13.

#### A CONVENIENT PIECE OF FURNITURE

suc. With reference to recent letters about chamber-pots in dining-rooms, I have an old sideboard which was originally built into an alcove. At each end are two small cuploards, each held a chamber-pot for a great number of years until one Highland laird brought home an American bride, who speedily ordered their removal. The sideboard itself, though not beautiful, is an interesting and beautifully made mahogany piece, made locally by the estate carpenter. Its legs are carved as complete figures of ancient Egyptians. Between its legs there used to be a small door opening

almost identical with that in the closely allied genus Elacagnus, for which physiological proof of nitrogen fixation was obtained many years ago. It may be that this capacity has now been proved for Hippophae if not, the matter could easily be tested.

If in fact sea buckthorn does belong to that minute scattered band of non-legiuminous plants, alder, Ceanothus, Elacagnus and Camarina—the last a tree pioneer on tropical maritime sands—which by virtue of symbiotic bacteria in root nodules can live independent of combined nitrogen, its value as a dune stabiliser must be enhanced by its power of enriching the ground with combined nitrogen as the root nodules decay. But deliberate use of this shrub as an intermediary between marrain grass and forest or farm crops in the winning of dunes to productive use must depend on the case of eradication after it has served its purpose. Controlled burning might be feasible, but even then the stumps would be an obstacle to agricultural use.

For afforestation lanes might be cut through the scrub by mechanical means, leaving the trees therein planted to kill out the intervening light-demanding sea buckthorn, after Cheaper transport costs. Speaking from experience as a canal carrier, I can state that canal transport from and to ship and points adjacent to any waterway offers costings against which no other form of transport can compete, and for that matter overall speed of collection and delivery.

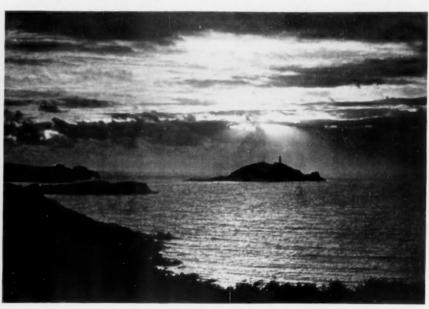
The cost of restoring the Kennet and Avon Canal to fully operational conditions would be in the region of £300,000 to provide nearly 90 miles of first-class water road, capable of carrying thousands of tons of traffic (I have over 100,000 tons of west to east traffic on firm offer from the day the canal is open again). This expenditure is equal to one mile of the projected new trunk roads upon which Mr. Ward's road transport will ply, without payment of one penny in tolls.

LESLIE N. MORTON, Durham Wharf, 171-2, High-street, Brentford, Middle-ser.

#### CRICKET'S VILLAGE ANCESTOR

Sig.—In the interesting article entitled Cricket's Village Ancester (August 25, 1955) Brig. Johnson writes: "Stoolball in America became town ball (Philadelphia 1833) and baseball (Washington 1843)." It is a fatal temptation





BRONZE AGE BURIAL-CHAMBER ON WHITE ISLAND, IN THE SCILLY ISLANDS. (Right) SUNSET OVER NEIGHBOURING ROUND ISLAND

See letter: Little human Isle of Scally

from the Arn Island in the Malay Archipelago. These are now reduced to II, and the Trundad and Tobago Tourist Board has adopted a plan to develop food (bananas and fruit trees) and water supply for the birds, install a resident curator, and re-stock the sanctuary from Arn Island.

Actually, my father supplemented the original stock by an additional five(?) birds a year or two after the first introduction. The question is are the cleven referred to survivors or descendants of the birds released forty-odd years ago? So far as I know, there has never been proof that they have nested on the island. Had they done so, I feel there would have been more of them living there to day.

COLLINGWOOD INGRAM, Benenden.

#### LITTLE-KNOWN ISLE OF SCILLY

Sir., Mr. Geoffrey Grigson's evocative word picture of the other worldhomess of White Island, Scilly Islands, (March I), makes me wish to applaud, for I too have been there and clambered over the tangled mound overlooking the rocky north shore which camouflages the Bronze Age burnal-chamber shown in my first photograph. It is the frequency of such

into a pantry and through this door late each night, a page used to crawl and go round the table loosening the men's cravats and collars. This story was told to me by my husband's aunt, who would be over ninety if she were alive to-day.

When we came into possession of this aunt's mother's chary, we rushed to read what she had written about the Indian Mutiny, as she was then in India with her husband, who was resident in Madras. It was with great disappointment that all we read was "Patrick tells me there is trouble in the north"—a slight understatement! Pamela Grant, Bridgend, Carron, Managashir.

#### VIRTUES OF THE SEA BUCKTHORN

Sire. The spine-clad sea buckthorn (Hippophae chammondes), the female so lovely in silver and orange autumnal glory, has probably yet one other virtue unrecorded by your previous correspondents. For on the roots are large perennal nodules, inhabited by bacteria which almost certainly fix the elemental nitrogen in the soil atmosphere, thus assisting the shrub to be so effective a pioneer on maritime dunes, where nitrates may be scarce. The microscopic structure of both nodules and bacteria in sea buckthorn is

benefiting from the wind protection it would provide in the early years—N. Alderen-Blake, Weston-Hall, Rosson-Wye, Herefordshire.

### THE VALUE OF INLAND WATERWAYS

SIR.—The letter from Mr. J. D. U. Ward published in your issue of February 16 is only one of many contributions from his pen, in a variety of publications, devoted to non-constructive, insinformed comments directed against the use of our inflow waterways.

The closing paragraph of this nebulous letter will stand a little examination and reply, he asks why canals which failed fifty years ago, when life was slower and road transport much less, should be expected to succeed in our own day. In our own day the economics of our country have undergone a revolutionary change, our population has increased vastly, our need to export more and more goods grows every day, as a consequence we are compelled to import more and more raw materials and goods, it is safe to say that the tonnages moving now are many times greater than lifty years ago.

What is our greatest single problem on a national scale to-day? Transport. What is the chief economic benefit that industry could enjoy? for the writer on cricket to attempt a genealogy for that noble game. Town ball was played in and around Philadelphia long before 1833, and, while the Washington Baseball Club was tounded in 1843, baseball originated in the state of New York, where it had already been played for years. Its ancestor was not stoolball but rounders.

By 1833 cricket had been long played in the vicinity of Philadelphia. There is record of cricket in Georgia in 1737 and in Maryland in 1754, there were cricket clubs in New York in 1786 and in South Carolina in 1821. I have reproduced in my 4 Century of Cricket in Philadelphia a Birch engraving of 1800 showing a little boy standing on the lawn behind what was then the state house of Philadelphia, holding one of the old curved cricket bats in his hand.

The game of bat and ball seemed to take its character from its environment. One of the puzzles met by the historian of cricket in the United States is that earlier than any recorded mention of cricket come descriptions of a game called wicket. It was played by 30 or 35 men to a side in an outdoor alley 75 feet long, with bats shaped like over-sized tennis rackets made of solid bass wood or white willow and hard hand-made ball the size of a baseball



COLLECTIONS IN LONDON, PARIS, FLORENCE AND ROME FEATURE ACETATE

Jean Radford creates a dream gown, fluid, flowing
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soft ball, with wickets 6 feet long and 4 inches high. It was a favourite game in Hartford, Connecticut, where Wicket wicket-players are still living. was played on the Boston Common as early as 1725; it was exceedingly popular in the vicinity of Hartford up to the end of the last century, and games sometimes attracted as many as 4,000 spectators. There are records of its having been played at Trinity College, Hartford, at Harvard and at Yale

Wicket does not seem to been a mutation from stoolball. There are so many variants of the game of bat and ball that I find it hard to accept any definite line of descent far proposed. — JOHN A. LESTER, 734, Brook-road, Wayne, Pennsylvania, U.S.A

#### AN OLD SYMBOL REVIVED

SIR,—With reference to your recent correspondence entitled An Old Symbol Revived, the enclosed photographs show the figure 4 carved the right way round and included in a kind of coat of-arms on an 18th-century wooden snuff-rasp. The back of the rasp is shown in my first photograph, the reverse in my second. It will be seen that the carving on the sliding shutter over the world reverse is a replaced to the state of the over the metal grater is not a replicaof that on the back; there is a notably different arrangement of the banners and drums. Most of the symbols under discussion are found on seals on

suggest uses, but I should suggest uses, but I should think it probable that the pierced ring with the owner's name belonged to a large sporting dog.—Thomas W. Bagshawe, Angmering House, Angmering-on-Sea, Sussex.

#### MINIATURE IN A RING

SIR,—In your issue of February 9 Mr. J. M. Christie gave an interesting descrip-tion of a tiny vinaigrette set in a ring. The enclosed photo-graph is of my paternal grandfather's ring, containing what must be, I think, one of the smallest hand-painted miniatures. The head of the miniatures. The head of the ring is of onyx and measures  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. by  $\frac{1}{9}$  in. The painting is  $\frac{1}{9}$  in by  $\frac{1}{9}$  in. The miniature is of my grandmother and was probably painted about 1850, as I have a miniature of my grandfather in an oval locket by the same artist, and that is signed on the back "Jas. Holmes, pt. London, 1850."

This James Holmes was This James Holmes was one of the founders of the S.B.A., to whose exhibitions he contributed largely He was both artist and courtier. The Dictionary of Painters of Miniatures, by J. J. Foster, says:

"His works were good in

colour, and generall carefully finished. H had, besides, great must cal talent, and became . lavourite of George IV being in the habit of join ing in both singing ing in both mind playing with the King.

M. Weston EVELVN M. WESTON (Miss), 45, Malden Court, New Malden, Surrey



Sir. It was a pleasant surprise last summer to a clump of G ntiana lutea growing happily in the Jardius des Plantes at Geneva. This is the tallest of the herbaceous sight in sub-alpine mead ows Its 4- to 6-ft spikes carry wherls of small yellow flowers, springing from a rosette of large oyate leaves, which are g'a roots and attractively

Though it is occasionally recommended by the more adventurous alpine plant specialist, I have never country, and it has indeed a reputation for difficulty, owing prob-ably to its long tap root. It makes a hand-some feature plant, flowering in late summer, seed is available and I

imagine it would grow successfully in a well-drained average loam.

In a well-drained average loam.

Its roots are renowned for their therapeutic qualities, and indeed the genus is named after an Hlyrian King Gentius, who is believed to have discovered its medicinal properties. Extracts of the root are used in tonics and bitters - 200 to 300 tons are imported annually into the United States and the other is often called bitter. and the plant is often called bitter-root or bitterwort. In Switzerland several liqueurs are made from it, including a particularly unpleasant one which tastes like bitter castor oil. In the Alps one may occasionally

In the Alps one may occasionally see a "Gentian man," usually an old wanderer despised by the other peasants, who goes around pulling the roots and stowing them m a sack, later to sell them in the valley towns. Cattle detest the plant, and the farmers pull it up, for it is a great



RING CONTAINING A MINIATURE BLY PAINTED BY JAMES HOLMES ABOUT 1850 PROBABLY

See letter Mensalure in a Ring

the grass. Kerner (The Natural History of Plants) notes that, even "in deep meadows riddled by mice," the though "very rich in reserve foods were never seen to be attacked. A. J. HUNTLY, London, W. C.2.

#### MAKING A CAMOMILE LAWN

Sik. I understand that it is possible to grow a lawn from camomile seeds, and should be much obliged to know if you have any information on the method of sowing, and if any reader has any experience of growing such a lawn. A. D. Lordy, 37, Norwich-road, Northwood, Middleser.

Camornile lawns or paths have long been popular, especially in herb gardens, as they release a pleasant scent

gatdens, as they release a pleasant scent when walked upon. They are rather difficult to make, since the seed is expensive, and it is expensive and it is wasteful to sow it as one would grass. Plants can be longht, but this is an best to sow the seed in late spring in a welllings to about two inches apart if they become overcrowded. The folrows on the lawn site, which must be well on light sandy soil. The first season the plants should be allowed to flower and spread to-gether (by runners) without attention beyond

after planting they should have formed acontimuous mat and may be trimmed with shears and eventually cut with a not be walked over too much - En

#### STARLING EGGS IN FEBRUARY

my wife was looking out of the window at the

descending sleet when she saw two pale blue objects on the snow-covered

They looked like the shells of newly-hatched thrush's or starling's eggs, which are frequent enough in the spring. But to her surprise they turned out to be freshly laud starling's eggs. To make quite sure that they were fresh we broke one, in which the yolk was absolutely clear.

I read in the Handbook of British

Birds that the starling "exceptionally breeds in autumn and even winter."

And Mr. T. A. Coward, in Birds of the British Isles and their Eggs, writes: "eggs dropped by the impetuous bird are not uncommon." But to find two eggs on February 17 dropped on grass But to find two as if by pullets must be very unusual.

LIONEL BOOTLE WILBRAHAM, Trunk House, Core, Farnborough, Hampshire

#### LONDON'S MECHANICAL VEHICLES

Sir.—With reference to Wayfarer's letter regarding the Highgate Hill trainway (February 23) I am afraid that the cable car depicted in his photograph cannot claim to be No. 1 in the long line of London's mechanical vehicles. This title is held by the steam omnibus invented by Walter Hancock, which was placed in service between Whitechapel and Stratford in 1831 The vehicle is not even eligible for the title of London's first mechancal traincar, as a steam train was operated (although without success) in South London in November, 1873, and a short trial was given to a battery operated electric car in East London in 1882.

The Highgate Hill line was, how-ever, the first trainway in London to be entirely mechanically operated. It was opened by the Lord Mayor of London on May 29, 1884, and although many operational difficulties were encountered (the line being, in fact, closed to traffic between 1893 and 1893), the other conditions of the conditions of and 1897) the cable cars did not finally cease operation until August 23, 1909. The line was then taken over by the London County Council. who proceeded to electrify it. The work was finished by the following year and electric trams began to operate over the route on March 25, 1910 - T. A. Griss, Hon. Sec., Tram-1910 T A Garrs, Hon. Sec., Tram-way and Light Railway Society 30 Chandos-wenne, Whetstone, N.20.



CLUMP OF GENTIANA LUTEA, SELDOM SEEN IN GARDENS, GROWING IN THE JARDIN DES PLANTES AT GENEVA



FRONT AND BACK OF AN 18th-CENTURY WOODEN SNUFF-RASP

See letter: An Old Symbol Revise.

merchandise, on manuscripts and on parts of buildings and tombs. I think that an example on a domes chattel, such as this, must be rare EVA R. PINTO (Mrs.), Oxhe House, Northwood, Middlesex Oxhey Woods

#### FOR SLAVES OR DOGS?

SIR, - Referring to the letter Relies of Slavery, which appeared in your issue of February 23, I think it would be unsale to assume that either ring illustrated was used on a black servant or slave in this country. From available evidence black servants or blackamoors were treated very unlike 17th- and 18th-century English house

As no dimensions are given your correspondent's letter, in your correspondent's letter, it is difficult to assess sizes of

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# IN THE ISLE OF AXHOLME

By GEORGE E. HYDE

GLANCE at the map of England reveals the wide extent of Lincolnshire, but it requires closer examination to find the limited area known as the Isle of Axholme. It lies in the extreme north-west of the county and is bordered on one side by the Trent, there a wide and sluggish river, and on its other sides by the counties of Yorkshire and Notting hamshire. Its shape is roughly rectangular, and its size in the region of 74 square miles. The chief industry is farming, and most of the land is low-lying. In a few places only it reaches an elevation of 80 feet. Compared with most of England, it retains a quiet atmosphere, and this is largely because the busiest roads are several miles away from its boundary. The crowded Great North Road, which serves so much of Lincolnshire, misses it entirely, and the arteries of the railway are also some distance away. There is none of the noisy bustle we associate with expresses and crowded excursion trains, although a local line connects the larger villages

But in spite of the serenty of the scene, and tack of urban development, many people visit the Isle of Axholme every year, and some, in search of history, travel long distances. John Wesley,

the founder of Methodism, was born at Epworth, the capital of the Isle, on June 17, 1703. He was the second son in a family of eight children, and nearly lost his life at an early age in a devastating fire at the rectory. This almost completely destroyed the old building, and the present rectory, now no longer occupied by the rector, contains little of the original house. But it continues to attract tourists, including Americans, who are also interested in the village of Scrooby a few miles away. Scrooby is not in the Isle of Axholme, but is associated with the Pilgrim Fathers.

An earlier rectory at Epworth was also destroyed by fire, in 1702, and it has been suggested that the two fires, so close together, originated in a suspicious way. Aucient prints picture in birid detail the midnight rescue of



TYPICAL COUNTRY IN THE ISLE OF ANHOLMS, IN THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF LINCOLNSHIRE

John Wesley from the flames. Before Wesley became immersed in Methodism he was curate at the small village of Wroot, about four miles from Epworth, and it seems that he often used a boat to visit his parishioners. This is not sur prising, for the whole area contains many waterways, and was originally very swampy.

The drainage of the Isle of Axholme was carned out by the Dutch engineer, Cornelius Vermuyden, who eventually received a kinghthood and a share of the land, but seems to have died a poor man. His efforts in land reclamation were not welcomed by all the local inhabitants, who did not hesitate to attack the alien Dutch, and even suggested that they described to be hanged. There was also considerable opposition from farmers, and others, living in the adjoining parishes of Yorkshire. They alleged that the

construction of waterways had caused their own land to be flooded, and their crops ruined. But in spite of the abuse, and considerable physical difficulties, the work continued. The courses of the Rivers Idle and Torne were changed, new drains cut, and thousands of acres of sedge and reed-choked bog converted into useful agricultural land.

The farming industry has been subjected to considerable fluctuation since the time of Vermiyden, and has gone through critical periods in the present century, but to day the Isle of Axholme embraces some of the richest and most highly cultivated areas in England. The usual crops are grown in the wide, level helds, and strangers are also impressed by the many acres of sugar-beet and celery that thrive in the dark peaty soil. Many more acres of virgin peat still exist close to the Isle, and a bale of peat ordered for the garden may well have come from there. Some of the fields contain the remains of long dead giant trees, and it is on record that no fewer than 600 bog oaks were once recovered from a plot of less than ten acres.

Others who go to the Isle of Asholme have a very different purpose, for the slow-flowing waterways attract countless anglers. The long, straight channels, made by the Dutch, are now the scene of fishing matches, and competitors of various ages arrive in hundreds from Sheffield, some 40 miles away, and a score of Yorkshire's smaller industrial communities. The little town of Crowle, which lies a few miles to the east of Epworth, is served by the railway, and in the angling season the week end trains are crowded with nen armed with rods and other gear of the ancient art.

For the naturalist also, there is much of interest in the Isle, even though the more imposing wild life dwindled as the work of drainage advanced. In earlier times harners raised their chattering young in the swamps, and the booming note of the bittern was a common sound. To day, if one is fortunate, one may see an occasional hen harrier in the winter, or even catch a glimpse of a wandering litterns, banky form, though they are no longer residents. But one need not look far for the bright flash of the kingfisher, nor be surprised if a startled heron flaps away on one's approach. Mallard, real and a few shoveler raise families every year, and the colonies of black headed gulls are



HOUSES IN THE TOWN OF EPWORTH, WHERE JOHN WESLEY, THE FOUNDER OF METHODISM, WAS BORN IN 1763

increasing in the area. Where conditions are to their liking, reed-warblers return each spring and build their nests in the swaying reeds.

There are no extensive woodlands, and little trace remains of three large woods that once existed, but woodpeckers manage to find accommodation, and owls are not uncommon. Short eared owls are seen fairly often in the winter, and it is not unusual for a pair to nest. limitation of woodland affects the butterfly and moth population, but I have come across thirty different kinds of butterflies, and others may have escaped notice. Nor should it be forgotten that the highly prized, and now extinct, mazarine blue butterfly was once to be found near Epworth. Another enthusiast and I have made several careful, but fruitless, searches for this species. That grant of all our moths, the death's head, is found occasionally, and its awe-inspiring caterpillar, which grows to a length of inches, is sometimes seen in the potato fields. A little before my time a rural naturalist who lived in the Trent-side village of Owston Ferry used to collect death's head caterpillars and pupae and sell them for numepence each. Modern inflation, alas, has had its effect on even

Many who are vague about the Isle of Axholme have heard of the Haxey Hood, which

is hunted every year on January 6. The ceremony has been staged on this date for everal centuries, going back to the time of Lady De Mowbray, who lived in the early 1400s, and was the wife of Sir John De Mowbray, then the chief landowner at Haxey. The legend relates that the elegant lady lost her hood when riding on Haxey Hill, and that the wind carried it across the fields. No fewer than thirteen yokels chased the missing headgear, and on its restoration each was granted a strip of land as a reward on condition that a similar performance should take place on the same date annually. So the old custom continues, and every January a large crowd of inhabitants, and others, gather at 2 p.m. to watch the start of the hunt. The main characters are the Lord and twelve Boggins or Plough Boggins, who include the Fool. original Fool was the finder of the hood, but, because of shyness or nervousness, the presentation to the Lady was made by the Lord. The popularity of this event is in no way impaired by the free ale provided by local landlords.

No account of the Isle of Axholme ever brief, should omit a reference to an interest ing work which describes early affairs in the area. The story is the renowned MS. In a Red Box, which was written about half a century ago by a Nonconformist minister, who remained

unknown until after its publication. The original work was sent to the publisher packed in a red cardboard box, which contained no covering letter, and this led to its intriguing title. A more sober book, which is equally well worth reading is Hetty Wesley, by Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch. It deals with the Wesley family and contains details of the secluded countryside in which the numerous members lived for so many years. The History and Topography of the Isle of Axholme, by the Rev. W. B. Stonehouse, which was published considerably more than a century ago, has a rich store of information and details of many things which have become forgotten in

As to the future of this quiet, rural countryside, one can only speculate on possible changes for better or worse. Already heavy industry exists within a few miles of its eastern frontier, and this becomes more apparent by night, when the great furnac - of Scunthorpe light the sky. On the other side hes the busy South Yorkshire coalfield, and there is reason to believe that rich coal measures are buried deep below the itself. So the pleasant villages may one day be transformed into thriving mining communities, with all the amenities of "progress," to the sorrow of the fishermen, and perhaps a few

# ON THE SECRET LIST

\*HERE were two of them," said my informant "One perched on a water-lily leaf. The other alighted on the lawn where the water voles graze.

You'd better keep it dark," I murmured Next day the pair invaded my garden, perching aind the trosted roses beside the drawing room window. I might never have seen them if it had not been for the grey wagtails. Every season a small influx of these attractive birds advances across the Weald in the slow damp days of November. Sometimes, when waiting for the fieldfares to roost in the grass and bracken after the winter sun has spread a scarlet glow above the downs. I notice a couple of grey wagtails flitting along the course of a swollen stream before vanishing into the shade

This winter more grey wagtails have appeared around my home. One bird spent a ck in a neighbour's garden; others, feeding in gardens near Hayward's Heath and Lindfield, caused more commotion than they Telephones buzzed and postcards reached me from youthful ornithologists. "A wagtail is living in our garden not the ordinary kind of disbwasher but a yellow breasted bird who can't keep his tail still." One grey wagtail strutted about the water bly leaves in my tiny garden pond and pecked at the small water beetles, two more toraged together beside a sluggish stream two miles away. "They weren't alf tame, " reported the grocer's boy  $\bullet$ 

Through the first weeks of last December the goldfish parading about the waters of our little pool were watched with special care. Any moment, I hoped, they might be joined by more grey wagtails. But I was disappointed. No more wagtails came our way. Not that my sojourn near the pond went unrewarded. One morning I watched a water vole swimming in mid-stream push a large piece of brown bread which had been dropped by a thieving magpie. Another time a great spotted wood pecker, imitating the tits, perched precariously on a large ham bone suspended from a string and for nearly a minute pecked at the meat with all the vigour and skill of the great tits. And then this woodpecker (the Bachelor we call him, though last summer he brought a solitary baby to the bird-table) startled me by diving on to a dying leaf of Nymphaa alba. The leaf bent beneath his weight until the Bachelor's legs and underparts were submerged in the waters of our Six times he bowed his face to the water and drank. Then off he flew into the wood

Even as he disappeared the birds on the Secret List displaced him at the pool. One settled on another water lily leaf, the other clung to the fallen reed-mace. Eagerly they splashed the water about their backs, with all

washed their wings and soaked their breasts in the clear, blue water, I found myself classing them, after the bee-caters and the kingfishers, as the most beautiful birds I have ever seen in Britain

Yet when I am asked what birds have visited our pool in recent months, I am content to mention only the grey wagtail and the woodpecker. Nor, in any case, would most people be in the least impressed by news of these birds on the Secret List. The species is familiar to casual bird-watchers. Brighton to Birmingham and from Canterbury to Carlisle or Haverfordwest, men watch them ring them, admire and abuse them. They also

For the pair of visitors to our slender pool were bullfinches. Perhaps the most lovely of perching birds, they are also the most hated That is why they share a place with the solitary merlin, the stone-curlew which visited our common and the lone osprey who seems to come to our county each autumn, on my private Secret List.

There is a reason for this secrecy. During this past year more than 500 bullfunches have been shot within four miles of my home shot within book says one gardener, "I've killed 44 book says one gardener," My score is only 27, "I've killed 44 bullfinches this winter. "My score is only 27," says a fruit farmer, but my neighbour has killed nearer 50.

As the fields expand with the first light fall of snow I watch the men patrolling the fruit farms, creeping in rubber boots along the hedgerow before crouching in the shadow of the wood. As the snow rustles through the web of silver birch twigs and the harsh cries of hungry fieldfares fall out of the wind, the medley of winter sounds is punctuated by the short, sharp, erack of the guns echoing across our parish and the next as the war against these handsome birds grows in fury

### NOT HERE BUT NEAR

VOT the mountain ridges where stars graze as

But the ridges' valleys of sunlight and sleep. Not the sky's marriage where morning colours break.

But the window's whisper when night thoughts

Not the summer drowning treetops in green, But a mild day of winter and hope for a sheen Not the burst of singing as sphere calls to sphere, But bees in the wallflowers,

Not here but near J. PHOENICE

# By GARTH CHRISTIAN

Nor, as I listen to the hoarse, melancholy cries of the bullfinches, do I find it easy to defend them. It is not much fun being a fruit-farmer when your carefully tended acres of Leveller gooseberries are robbed of half their buds. The small-grower's love for the wild birds does not increase when rising labour costs and fuel bills are matched by declining crops after these beautiful birds have "intercepted" his hopes of fruit - to quote John Ray's criticism of the bullfinch in Willoughby's Ornithology (1678).

Bullfinches are protected in most areas under the new Wild Birds Protection Act. In the fruit-growing districts of East Sussex, Kent and Worcestershire, though, they may be by authorised persons. "They're lovely little things," says one whose bag is more than two score. Then he advances his own curious theory to account for the bullfinch problem. "They didn't used to be so bad. It's them east-coast floods a few winters back that did the damage. Bullfinches come from Canvey Island. When the sea broke through the birds 'opped it into East Sussex and they've stayed 'ere ever since

Meantime the mobile laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture pauses at the edge of the wood, eager young biologists, keen to help the unfortunate fruit-farmer and please the despondent bird-lover, strive with energy and patience to understand more of the life story of these remarkable birds. Theirs is not an easy task. We who live in the heart of the bullfinch country and suspect that bullfinches are among stand why they destroy so many fruit buds on one farm while ignoring those next door, and I would not, a year ago, have believed it possible for us to count 500 bullfurch corpses in one area and still consider the species among our common

Yet still they come, a little party of two hens and a cock, a rival pair from near at hand, a miniature flock of six birds, eating the seeds of grass, perching on the stems of dock and sorrel before bathing in our garden pool. I rejoice when they thin my unpruned crop of Cox's orange pippins; I admire the skill with which they pounce upon the seeds of forgetme-nots in the heat of late summer and seize the larvæ of harmful winter moths in the first weeks of winter. Then, watching them eating the seeds of weeds on the borders of the wood, I remember the small farmer who cannot pay his bills and I feel guilty. Some day, perhaps, scientists will find a way of restricting the harm done by these most beautiful of birds. Then I shall dare to remove them from my private Secret List.

Meantime, the guns thunder across the valleys. And when I am asked "Have you seen any bullfinches lately?" I reply: "Well, I have seen some grey wagtails.

# Horrockses



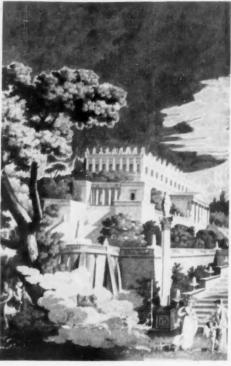
# FRENCH SCENIC WALL-PAPERS

interesting phase in fashions for interior A decoration is represented by the popularity of French scenic papers during the first half of the 19th century. The term scenic might, of course, be applied to almost any form of large scale pictorial work, but in connection with wall-papers has been generally adopted in a restricted sense as conveniently describing a certain type which was produced in France between about 1805 and 1860. The distinctive feature of these papers was that they provided a continuous series of pictures, and since all parts depicted successive stages in a story, or different views in a panorama, they had to be made without any of the repetition of pattern common to ordinary wall papers. The initial outlay for their production was consequently very high. Even apart from the expenses of the working designs for which French artists of note were usually employed—there was the cost of the 1,500, 2,000, or perhaps 3,000 separate blocks required for each set of ten, twelve, or sixteen large scenes. Finally the accurate handling of such quantities of material for the printing necessitated specially skilful workmanship and careful supervision

Admittedly, once all the preparations were complete, copies of each series could be made and sold comparatively cheaply, and some of the most popular are known to have been pubfished at intervals again and again. There was always the chance, though, that a series might not prove successful, and it was partly this element of uncertainty which deterred English (and other manufacturers) from risking large sums in affempts to rival the French

If the idea of mass production for such a specialised luxury article was new, the decora tive principles involved were not. John Baptist Jackson's papers in oil (1750-60), with their much advertised chiaroscuro effects, were continuous and pictorial, while the class of Chinese papers illustrative of factory, town and country life were often anecdotal as well. For those who could afford it there was the variety obtain able from hand painting directly on to plain papered, or unpapered, walls, and it was from this method of decoration that French scenic papers were really derived. But whereas the dimensions of each wall space could be treated individually in hand-painting, scenic papers had to be planned within the limits of uniform sizes convenient for printing. As the strips usually averaged 90 or 91 inches by 19 or 21 inches. designers purposely included expanses of sky, groups of trees, or other unimportant details, so that trimming should not unduly affect essential features. Even so, the cutting required to fit over channey places and between windows and doors was apt to involve unfortunate mutilations of important scenes





DANCE OF THE OTAHITI GIRLS BEFORE KING 0-TOO: A DETAIL FROM LES SAUVAGES DU MER DU SUD, A WALL-PAPER FIRST ISSUED BY DUFOUR IN 1806, Belfast Municipal Museum. (Right) 2. VENUS EMERGES FROM HER CHARIOT IN A CLOUD: A DETAIL FROM TELEMACHUS IN THE ISLAND OF CALYPSO, FIRST ISSUED BY DUFOUR IN 1825. Mount St. Mary's, Dublin

To be seen at their best scenic papers obviously needed commodious and relatively empty rooms - hence their popularity for colonial houses in America. It was not only the to use them. Despite certain disadvantages they were artistically superior to most of the monotonous and highly commercialised wall-paper productions of contemporary Europe Consequently examples are still to be found not only in large houses, but also in relatively unexpected places. Thus a varied selection has survived in some of the smaller Irish houses, where they seem to have suffered less from subsequent schemes of redecoration than in England.

Thanks to the discovery of some of Joseph Dufour's original account books, blocks and designs, to the researches of Clouzot and Follot in France, and of Nancy McClelland in America,

the surviving specimens can be identified. Thus it is frequently possible to ascertain the names of the manufacturer and the artist concerned, the date of the first issue, and sometimes even the original sale price. Of course this applies rather more to Dufour's output than to that of his contemporaries and successors Zuber, Jacquemart and Bénard, Desfossé and Karth But since Dufour was one of the most eminent manufacturers, and as his work seems to have been so popular for export, it is his papers which are most often to be seen outside France.

The subjects used for illustration were usually based (sometimes very roughly based indeed) on well-known themes from history, mythology, or literature, or on a kind of panorama and history combined. Many, perhaps the majority, were produced in colours which may appear rather too bright and harsh to us now

but fortunately numerous sets were done in grisaille and it is in these that the normally exquisite draught-manship shows to special advantage

It is generally accepted that the two earliest of the real series of scenic papers to come out were Zuber's Fues Suisse (1804), designed by Mongin, and Dufour's Sauvages du Mer du Sud (1806), designed by J. C. Charvet. The latter, illustrating the adventures of Captam Cook in the South Pacific, is particularly well documented, because Dufour published a preliminary pamphlet about it in 1804. In this he explained the pro-posed educational and decorative purpose (such as bright colours to imitate tapestry) and also expatiated on the designer's difficulties, even supplying three alternative schemes for arranging the twenty strips according to the available space. In addition the strips were numbered, two (Nos. 10 and 11) having been specially composed for





3 and 4.—TWO SCENES FROM DUFOUR'S BAY OF NAPLES SERIES, FIRST ISSUED ABOUT 1822. Clonskeagh Castle, Dublin

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HERE IS JUST a selection from hundreds of letters sent to us about BP Energol 'Visco-static' motor oil. We think they will be of interest to other motorists especially those who want the best from their cars. Nearly all of these letters report easier starting, livelier running and lower petrol consumption. But even more

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B. E. Joyner, 27, Greenhill Avenue, Caterham, Surrey

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T. C. Blanchard, Hurst Green, Sussex.

# Will it get too thin?

"I have been considering whether to use your new 'Visco-static' oil in my Hillman Minx but have been told that this oil gets thinner as it gets colder and in very cold weather might get dangerously thin. Is this true?" E. W. Hobbs, 6, Westgate Road, Beckenham.

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"I am a most enthusiastic motorist, running a 1947 14 litre Riley for business and pleasure. Since changing to BP Energol 'Visco-static' I find that I can immediately drive from cold at any speed I choose, even 70 miles an hour with perfect confidence.

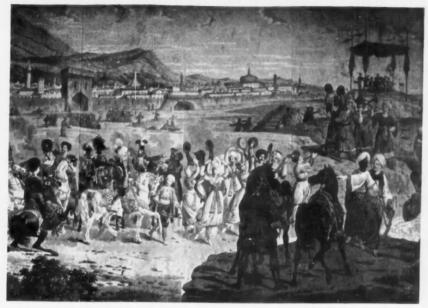
My Riley behaved superbly in the Scottish International Rally and never gave me a moment's anxiety. My present mileage is 51,500, new pistons being fitted at 40,800."

Gateford Road, Worksop, Notts.



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in International Motor Rally





5 and 6.—TWO SCENES FROM A WALL-PAPER KNOWN AS L'OUVERTURE DES DETROITS, ISSUED BY AN UNKNOWN MAKER ABOUT 1820-25. Skea Hall, near Enniskillen

use between windows, or in other narrow spaces. The illustration of strips 4 to 6 (Fig. 1) is taken from the specimen in the Belfast Municipal Museum and Art Gallery.

Municipal Museum and Art Gallery.

Dufour had been in Macon when he produced the Captain Cook set. So well was it received, however, that he moved to Paris in 1807, and it was from his factory there that set after set poured forth for the next twenty-five years or so. Moreover, as the reputation of his papers grew, so did the demand for re-issues of certain sets. Thus Monuments of Paris—a coloured geographical sequence showing the main buildings grouped in somewhat arbitrary fashion, first produced in 1814 and sold at fifty francs for the thirty strips—proved very popular. too did the highly coloured and imaginative panorama of the banks of the Bosphorus, first issued in twenty-five strips about 1816. Two other well-known coloured sets are Telemachus in the Island of Calvpso (twenty-five strips first brought out about 1825) and Antenor's Voyages (first brought out about 1830). Both are roughly based on Classical stories, the former from Fénelon's account of the efforts of Telemachus, accompanied by the goddess Minerva, in disguise, to find Ulysses; the latter from Lantier's description of the wanderings of Antenor with Helen of Troy and Menelaus.

For some reason—perhaps the similarity of the subjects—there seems to have been an inclination to mix these particular sets. According to Nancy McClelland the incomplete specimen of Antenor's Voyages at the Lindens, Danvers, Massachusetts, is not only combined with parts of Telemachus, but also with strips of The Incas (first issued about 1832). Similarly a room in a house in Limerick at one time had scenes from Telemachus on half the wall space and from Antenor's Voyages on the other half.

Excessive trimming and mixing of different series were not, however, the only forms of mutilation to which scenic papers were hable. Even where there was space to show them continuously, there was a tendency to arrange them like pictures, often with paper or wooden framing. Though by no means what was originally intended by the makers, sets which included a fair proportion of well-defined incidents suffered less badly from this kind of treatment than might be expected. Thus the Telemachus paper appears as a quite effective series of separate pictures in a room of a house once associated with the Emmet family, now known as Mount St. Mary's, Milltown, Dublin In one Venus emerges from her dove-drawn chariot in a cloud to vent her wrath on Telemachus for disobeying her orders (Fig. 2).

For those who did not desire so much colour with their schemes of interior decoration there were many sets in grisaille to choose from

often adaptations of literary themes like Le Cid. Don Quixote or The Lady of the Lake, or of mythological stories. Indeed, probably the most popular of all scenic papers was Dufour's Eutral and Psyche set, designed by Louis Laffitte in twenty-six strips to form twelve continuous pictures in grey and sepia. The date of first publication, moreover, happens to be well authenticated by the note found on one of the original panels in the old factory. "This paper was invented by Joseph Dufour in the year 1816." So successful was it that it was frequently re-issued during his lifetime and after his death in 1836 the 1,500 wooden blocks were purchased for use by the firm of Desfossé and Karth. Even at the beginning of this century the series was still being repeated. With such a history of production it is not surprising that many specimens of various issues have survived, including a fine set in the Victoria and Albert

Another of Dufour's popular, and incidentally cheaper, monochrome sets was the Vies d'Halie or Bay of Naples paper. It was originally brought out about 1822, at twenty five trancs for the thirty-three strips, and is therefore not to be confused with the less well-known Venetian Scenes designed by Vernet. The alternative



7.—CHASSE A COURRE, FIRST ISSUED BY JACQUEMART AND BENARD ABOUT 1814-20. Victoria and Albert Museum



title Vues d'Italie is really the better, for the panorama includes not only the Bay of Naples as seen from the shore and views of Tivoli, Amalh and Vesuvius in eruption, but also scenes with quays, ships, gardens, the ruins of a Roman triumphal arch and peasants near an obelisk. Despite several re-issues of versions in sepia, green, mauve and bistre, as well as in grey, it so happens that few specimens have survived. Consequently there is a special interest about the strips from St. Austell, Cornwall (now in the Victoria and Albert Museum), and about the complete example at Clonskeagh Castle, Dublin, portions of which are illustrated here (Figs. 3 and 4).

So far only well authenticated productions have been mentioned; but there are others about which little is known—occasionally not even the original title. In Historic Wallpapers Nancy McClelland lists a number in America, and there is an unusual example at Skea Hall, near Ennishillen According to the noted French authority, Monsieur Carlhan, few specimens of this particular paper survive, even in France, and the names of the manufacturer and designer have not been ascertained. Obviously it portrays some important gathering, probably in the Near East hence Mousieur Carlhian's provisional title L'Ouverture des Détroits. He gested the date of first issue as about 1820-25. Since the designers of scenic papers took many liberties when dealing with historical, or semihistorical, data, it is hard to be sure what town for instance, is here represented in the distance Nor is it certain that the strips (apparently a full complement of thirty) have all been mounted in the correct order, though these considerations fortunately do not impair the general decorative effect (Figs. 5 and 6).

Of scenic papers by manufacturers less well known outside France and America than Dufour only one example can be mentioned here. The great firm of Jacquemart and Bénard is represented by several specimens of the Chasse à Course—two in private possession in England and one in the Victoria and Albert Museum (Fig. 7). It is a coloured set, first issued about 1814-20,

Finally it must be remembered that though scenic papers continued to be brought out, and old favourites re-issued, until well into the second half of the 19th century, there was a gradual process of decline. Indeed, the end of the best period coincides roughly with the date of Dufour's death, 1836. For a time after that firms like Lapeyre and Drouart (successors to Dufour and his son-in-law Leroy) and Desfossé and Karth, for instance, still brought out fine sets and maintained their prestige, but by 1860 the general lowering of the artistic standards of the productions reflected the serious falling off in demand.

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# MENACE OF THE NEW ZEALAND BURR

Written and Illustrated by J. E. LOUSLEY

OLY ISLAND, now accessible at low tide by a causeway from the Northumbrian coast, is a peaceful place. For a few hours each day parties of visitors arrive to see the castle and the famous rums of Lindisfarne Priory, but the whole of the north of the island is wild country which is a paradise for the naturalist. Here, on the dunes, an invader from the Antipodes has appeared, and its spread is proving a menace to birds and

The New Zealand burr, Acaena anscrimifolia, is an attractive looking plant with flowers not unlike those of salad burnet, which is so common on the chalk downs of the south. leaves, with their silky under-surface, have been compared to those of silverweed but are smaller The flowers are crowded into globular heads about half an inch across on stiff upright stalks which rise to six inches above ground level. At first, in May and June, the heads are grevishgreen, then red as spines develop on the fruit, and finally brown as the fruits become ripe. It is these spines which cause the trouble. Each calyx—the plant belongs to the rose family has four of them, each a quarter of an inch long or more and armed with a minute barb at the end. Once embedded in fur, feathers, or in cloth, they cannot be withdrawn and the fruit is carried off by the unfortunate animal involved As there are many fruits in each head, all with their spines spread out, the slightest brush against the plant is almost certain to remove quite a lot of fruits.

On the dunes of Holy Island New Zealand burr forms mats which are sometimes several yards across. Each of these may have started from a single seed, for the woody stems spread out and branch in all directions, and it is not uncommon to find individual stems a yard in length. Last September I found patches of the burr from near Emmanuel Head, west over the Links to the Shell Road—a distance of nearly two miles—and it is obviously still spreading. Islanders told me that they had known it for 20 to 30 years but that it had increased greatly since the war. The earliest botanical evidence for its occurrence was in June, 1939, when Mr W. C. Worsdell collected a specimen. New Zeakand burr (the Maoris call it Bidi-

bidi or Piri-piri) is a native of New Zealand, Tasmania and the south of Australia. Here the spiny fruits become embedded in the wool of grazing sheep and cause serious frouble; they are not only very difficult to remove but also have been found in pelts and wool imported to this country for manufacture, and plants that originated in this way have been found growing near woollen mills in Tweedside, Yorkshire and

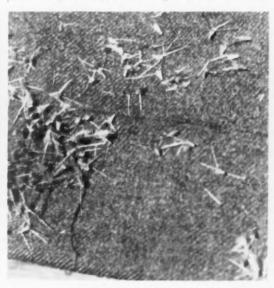


THE NEW ZEALAND BURR, ACAENA ANSERINIFOLIA, WHICH IS BECOMING SERIOUS PEST ON HOLY ISLAND, OFF THE NORTHUMBRIAN COAST. The spines catch in dogs' coats and can cripple young larks and lapwings

Devon, and in areas where wood "shoddy" is — Acaena has come to stay, but I have no record used as a manure in Bedfordshire, Worcester— that it has proved a musance shire and Kent. Along the I weed, in Mereworth Woods in Kent and on Dartmoor they have spread in competition with native vegetation and persisted for at least 47, 18 and 54 years respectively. It seems that in these places

On Holy Island the plant is a pest. The spines which have proved such an efficient aid to the dispersal of fruits elsewhere are a threat to animals and an inconvenience to humans. 3 shows the large number of burrs





A MAT OF NEW ZEALAND BURR SEVERAL YARDS ACROSS. On Holy Island there is not so much competition from other plants as elsewhere. (Right) 3.—SPINES CAUGHT ON THE AUTHOR'S TROUSERS AFTER HE HAD BEEN FOR A WALK ON HOLY ISLAND. The burr may have arrived on the island in this fashion

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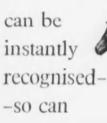
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attached to one leg of my flannel trousers after a walk on the links when I had been endeavouring to avoid the plant. Dogs return with their tails and undersides full of the spiny horrors and suffer considerably during their removal. Mr. Yates (the custodian of the Priory) tells me that he has seen young larks and lapwings covered with the burrs and crippled. Rabbits too collect them in numbers in their fur, and have probably been responsible for much of the spread. Some months before my visit myxomatosis reached the island and by September the rabbit population was almost exterminated; yet their old droppings were abundant in most of the smaller patches of New Zealand burr. In Kent it has been noticed that the plant has spread along the runways of the rabbit and probably the same has happened

How did the plant reach Holy Island in the first place? The answer to this is by no means easy, as, although the most common way in which it has been brought to Britain is with wool, this is not the only way. It has been grown from seed found in samples of New Zealand Chewing's Fescue at the Seed Testing Station, Cambridge in 1933. Seed of this grass has been imported from New Zealand in quantity, and if accompanied by seeds of the burr, this may explain its appearance in some of the places



THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NEW ZEALAND BURR IN BRITAIN. Spines caught in pelts and wool imported from the Antipodes may have started its spread here

marked on the map. Acaena anserinifolia is also occasionally grown in gardens for the attraction of the leaves and reddish heads and, although other species of Acaena are more beautiful and more commonly grown, this may be the origin at places such as St. Erth, Budleigh Salterton and Studland. We can only guess at how it arrived in Holy Island, but the most likely suggestion is that a visitor to Melrose Abbey went en to Holy Island and brought it on his clothing; it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that fruits were washed down the Tweed in flood

New Zealand burr is an adaptable plant and has found a home to suit it in Holy Island. Here the open sand-dunes with little native vegetation have given it a free field, and its spread has been much more rapid than in established colonies elsewhere where competition has been severe. In various other places it has been found in gravel pits, railway sidings, roadside banks and arable fields where it is unlikely to survive for more than a short time, or where immediate opportunities for expansion are limited. Myxomatosis has reduced its chances of spreading away from such places quickly. To this extent the position is less threatening than it was, but nevertheless all colonies of New Zealand burr should be kept under observation. It could become a very serious pest.

### **FIRST** SWERVE BOWLER THE

10 the north of Petworth is the little known village of North Chapel, It lies in Sussex, not far from the Surrey and Hampshire borders, and here, in 1756, was born a brownfaced boy named Noah Mann. Nothing is known of his parentage, except for the strong signs of gypsy strain which became more evident as he grew older. Short, swarthy, and broad-chested, with large hips and spider legs, which carried him over the ground like a wild creature, he was all muscle and bursting with energy. He learned the trade of a shoemaker, and later became an innkeeper, but he loved the open air and a day's shooting and would ride across the bare country-side when he could get away.

Some twenty miles south-westwards lay Broadhalfpenny Down, in Hampshire, where Hambledon had become a centre of big cricket, the cradle of the game until urban interests assumed control and established a London headquarters. Noah Mann was a superb natural cricketer, an acquisition to any side for the speed and agility of his fielding alone. A lefthanded all-rounder, he won his place in the Hambledon team during its greatest years, when it had routed a powerful England eleven by an innings and 168 runs.

Every Tuesday, when he took a day off in the summer, he would ride over to Broadhalfpenny for practice and, as the Hambledon men got to know him, they would throw handkerchiefs on the ground, which he would gather when going at full gallop. Abounding in verve and animal spirits, he would challenge all comers to a match at single-wicket or to a sprint, and he beat athletes who came from all over the country to compete as well as to watch the cricket.

His turn of speed led to his being given a sort of roving commission in the field, generally between slip and the then important position of long-stop occupied by little George Leer, who would sometimes misfield the ball deliberately, tempting the batsman to run. Mann, who had crept round in readiness, would pounce like a cat on the ball and whip it in to Tom Sueter like lightning—a ruse de guerre which often ran

As a batsman, he was characteristically impetuous, with all the left-hander's liking for a leg ball, and here too his pace between the wickets was worth many runs on the wide open fields. John Nyren well remembered running ten off one of those swinging blows to fine-leg, "Old Everlasting" Tom Walker, whose and Old Everlasting Tolli Walker, whose ponderous progress over the turf accentuated his slow scoring, would be caught up, patted on the back, and told that Walker was indeed a fit name for him.

Yet, for all his wonderful fielding and vigorous batting, Mann owes his memorable

place in the game's history to what was then a bowling phenomenon—the first swerve on record. Nyren called it "giving a curve to the ball the whole way," and compared it with the curve imparted to balls swung round the heads of Indian jugglers. No doubt it seemed appropriate to the strange gypsy look of the arthy, broad-chested figure playing bare headed with the breeze of Broadhalfpenny blow ing through his dark hair. His style of bowling was not deemed first-rate in itself, but the deceptive flight proved effective when he was brought on as a change bowler. It may well have helped to win him a place in distinguished company.

His earliest appearance in the score books was in August, 1777, when England met Hambledon in Guildford Bason, and Richard Nyren and Tom Brett dismissed their opponents for 50 in the first innings. Hambledon led them by 83, and then, in the second innings, came some stubborn resistance from Joseph Miller and Lord Tankerville. Nyren got rid of the latter, and Mann bowled out the dangerous Miller for 64, having already disposed of Bullen and Minshull. Finally, a timely imnings by Tom Taylor gave Hambledon a one-wicket victory

This was a good beginning and the two sides met twice more that season (it was the Test match of the age), each gaining one success. Mann's swerve came in useful, claiming valuable wickets and, as his scores were not considerable, this "curious feat," as it was called, together with his fielding, probably accounted for his continued inclusion in the team next season when, at the age of twenty-one, he proved a powerful addition to the attack, but made few runs.

His batting began to improve in 1779, when he had a good match at Sevenoaks. This time he not only bowled out six men and caught three, but hit up 56 in a stand with Richard Veck, who made 79, so that Hambledon's victory by an innings and 89 owed much to his Thereafter his batting came on, and he made valuable thirties and forties, developing into an opening batsman in 1781. In that year, at Moulsey Hurst (East Molesey to-day) in Surrey, five of Hambledon beat five of England at single-wicket by 78 runs, Hambledon's attack being assisted by the veteran Lumpy; but Noah Mann did at least as much to win the match, making five catches and scoring 67 out of 112 in the second innings. In June he helped Hambledon to an eight-wicket victory over England in a four-day match at Stoke Down, bowling out seven men-18th-century score-books did not credit the bowler with wickets obtained in any other way-and scoring 73 in the second innings. When Hambledon lost to Kent by 38 runs on Broadhalfpenny in

# By G. D. MARTINEAU

August, Mann's 48 was the top score in the first innings, and he carried his bat for 41 in the

In the following summer, Hambledon played their first match on Windmill Down and, though again assisted by Lumpy, lost to England by 142 runs. In the second mnings, Mann run out for 44—easily the highest score out of 93. He was indeed rather hable to run himself out, perhaps overestimating his ability to outpace a quick return and now, with David Harris joining the Hambledon attack, his bowling was used less often. Yet, from time to time, that curving flight would break a stand, and he was often top scorer in the later 1780s, when cricket was on the move towards less familiar surroundings in the days of White Conduit and the first Lord's of Dorset Fields.

Sometimes he would play for teams got up by Sir Horatio Mann, the eccentric Kentish

King of Cricket.

Noah Mann's impetuosity sometimes led Richard Nyren to hold him back and once, at a crisis, he sent him in last, which roused him to indignation and a determined effort. John Nyren describes the final scene, with ten runs wanted for victory and Sir Horatio striding about slashing nervously at the daisies, until the winning hit was made. "If you had let me go in an hour ago," stormed Noah, "I would have served them in the same way!" but Hambledon's "chosen general" knew better.

\* \* \*

In September, 1789, Mann played for Hampshire against England on Sevenoaks Vine, and only destinguished himself by bowling out the Earl of Winchilsea, chief founder of the lately formed M.C.C. It proved to be his farewell gesture to cricket. One showery day in the following December he went out shooting, and came back to the Half Moon, wet and tired, but several friends looked in, and a merry carouse ensued, at the end of which Noah Mann, refusing to go to bed, sat down to sleep in the chimney corner, after the ashes had, as usual, been heaped up in the hearth to keep the fire in. During the night, either through a spark catching his clothes or through his pitching forward into the embers, he suffered burns which proved fatal. He was thirty-three.

As a strong and fiery all-round cricketer, Mann had proved himself a splendid match winner, in the history of our game, that primitive swerve remains a landmark. It was another left-hander, George Hirst, who controlled and directed it with powerful effect at the beginning of this century; but the dark, spider-legged Sussex gypsy, riding over the hills to startle an England eleven with his "curious feat," is a

memorable character.

# CRAFT OF THE COUNTRY BRICK-MAKER

By J. GERAINT JENKINS

CLAY was used for making bricks and pottery long before man had discovered how to harden it in the heat of the fire Bricks made in Ancient Egypt were san baked, but however hard they became they softened again in the wet for hardened clay very quickly absorbs in instince into its particles. It was a great technological step forward therefore, when around 3,000 n.c. the inhabitants of the Near East evolved the technique of burning bricks, thus making them for more durable.

It was the Romans who first introduced the craft into Britain, and during their occupation many brick yards were set up throughout the country. When the Romans departed, however, the art of brick-making died out and did not return on any scale until the 15th century. There were, it is true, one or two brick yards in Suffolk as early as the 13th century, but most brick buildings of pre-15th century date in East Anglia were built of bricks imported to England from Flanders. They were, of course, extremely expensive, and were used only to build noblemen's castles, manor houses and churches. In the late 15th century, in East Anglia and other

late 15th century, in East Angha and other regions where building stone was scarce and the timber of the forests was running short, the craft of brick making took root, and workshops were set up wherever suitable clay occurred. Nevertheless, during this early period, the new building material was still limited in its use limited to the building of stately homes like Mapledurham in Oxfordshire, castles like Herstmonicux in Sussex and colleges like Queens' in Combastos.

Cambridge

It was not until the end of the 17th century that bricks became the common material for building the homes of the ordinary people, and it was then that the craft spread very quickly to all corners of England. In the 18th and early 19th centuries it was a common practice for brick-makers to travel around the country, visiting various places where houses were equired. They tested the local clay and decided on its suitability for making bricks. They often



AN EARLY HORSE-DRIVEN PUG MILL IN A SMALL COUNTRY BRICK-YARD. The clay is placed in the churn and broken up by revolving knives attached to the central shaft (From a mid-19th-century book on rural crafts)

blended and treated it, and adapted their techinques and processes to suit the nature of the clay. In this way a very large number of small brick yards came into existence

The 18th century was the flourishing period of the small country brick yard in England, for in the 19th century the craft, in common with many others, was greatly mechanised. Many of the small yards were forced to close down in the face of this new competition. In the miles of red, yellow and grey brick work of 19th-century England there is a dull monotony that was completely absent from the warlier rural work. The small brick-yard contributed to the architectural harmony of a region by providing material made from the local clay. Not until the mid-19th century were bricks of the same kind and colour sent all over the country by the large firms, destroying much of the old distinctly local harmony of colour and style that characterised the earlier brick buildings.

Although the majority of the old rural brick yards were forced to close down, here and there one may still find a small yard in operation, still chinging to the techniques and methods of past centuries despite competition from large scale manufacturers. To day the small country yards concentrate on the manufacture of sand-faced, hand-moulded bricks, of a quality that no machine can equal. Although this type of brick is three times as expensive as the machine-made variety, it is still greatly valued for wall facings.

As one of a series of visits to country craftsmen for the Museum of English Rural Life, I recently visited a small brick-yard in the heart of the Thames Valley Although in the 18th and early 19th centuries there were a number of small yards in the vicinity, producing bricks in an area where building stone was scarce, now however only this one remains at work. Throughout its life of nearly one hundred and fifty years the methods of manufacture have remained virtually unchanged. The tempering and preparation of the clay is still largely left to the forces of nature, while the processes involved in the

manufacture of bricks are still essentially hand methods.

The clay is generally dug in the autumn, before the winter rains set in and make the clay beds impossibly waterlogged. For some four months the newly dug clay is left in large heaps, so that it experiences the mellowing influence of frost, snow and ice. One or two men are constantly employed in turning the masses over, so that the atmosphere penetrates it in every direction. To do this they use wooden clay-spades. These spades are made of willow and have an advantage over metal spades in that the clay does not stick to the blade to the same extent. They are also much lighter in weight—a very important point when dealing with heavy material—and as they are shaped from a solid piece of wood there is no danger of their cracking at the joints.

After the clay has been broken up by natural forces, it is broken up even further by the pug





PURE CLAY, SEPARATED FROM PEBBLES AND STONES, BEING FORCED OUT OF PERFORATIONS IN THE DRUM OF THE PUG MILL. (Right) CLAY BEING CUT WITH A BOW AS IT COMES OUT OF THE PUG MILL AT ITS LOWEST LEVEL. The cut slabs are then taken to the moulding shops

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BRICKS BEING PLACED ON WOODEN PALLETS READY TO BE TAKEN TO THE DRYING SHEDS ON SPECIALLY-DESIGNED BARROWS. (Right) MOULDING PANTILES, WHICH ARE MADE IN THE SAME WAY AS BRICKS

mill. In the early days of brack-making pugging was done by men who walked on it barefooted until it was fully broken up. It was said that their feet were so sensitive that they would be able to pick out even the slightest pebble from the mass of clay. Later, most brick-works installed a pug mill in the form of a gigantic coopered churn, within which was a series of revolving knives. A horse, very often blind, was hitched to a horizontal shaft and, led by churn until the contents were fully broken up. In this yard, however, an oil-driven pug mill was installed a few years ago. The clay is first of all tipped into a conical metal tub, where a series of revolving knives breaks it up. It then falls into a large drum, where pebbles and stones are separated from the clay. The clay itself is squeezed out in a spaghetti-like mass through perforations in the wall of the drum. The pure clay comes out of the mill at its lowest level,

in a continuous strip some twelve inches square This is cut into slabs by means of a wire bow, and the slabs are placed on a low barrow to be taken to the various moulding shops

For brick-making a proportion of sand is mixed with the clay, for clay by itself shrinks and warps on drying, forming a hard outer crust before the interior moisture has had time to dry out. Sand mixed with the clay not only prevents shrinkage, but the presence of coarse particles in the brick allows the free passage of air into the interior, so that the moisture escapes and evaporates.

The moulder's tools are few and simple. He has a wooden mould shod with brass, a wire bow to cut away the excess clay and a pile of wooden slats called pallets on which the finished bricks are placed.

The mould is first of all sprinkled with sand, and a piece of tempered clay is taken

from the near-by pile and thrown with some force into the mould. Then clay is pressed in so that it fills the mould completely, the superfluous clay is cut away by the bow, and the top of the brick sprinkled again with sand. It is then placed on one of the pallets and loaded on to the low hack barrow, which a young lad wheels away to the drying racks. The brick-moulder works so quickly that the whole process has the appearance of one continuous action. An experienced moulder can make as many as a thousand bricks in a day.

From the moulding shops the bricks are taken to the drying sheds or hacks. In the past these were merely thatched buildings open on all sides, where the bricks were stacked to be dried by the elements. They were packed on their edges, sufficient space being left for the air to circulate between them. The thatched roof ensured that they dried gradually, without being exposed to the direct rays of the sun. This method was so unreliable, however, that in most brick-yards now the bricks are dried in an artificially heated room.

The half-dry bricks are generally dressed with a beater to correct any twisting or warping that may have taken place during the first stage of drying. The bricks are then built into a kiln, and are kept there in a steady heat for some two or three weeks before they are stacked ready

The colour of the finished brick depends not only on the raw material available, but also on the amount of firing it receives. Much of the variety of colour in old brick-work is due more than anything else to the unequal heat the bricks received, when they were burnt in clamps or rounded heaps near the place where they were required.

In addition to bricks this yard also produces a variety of other hand moulded products: curved pantiles, bright red floor tiles, small brickettes for fireplaces and agricultural drain tiles. One corner of the workshop is devoted to pottery making, and here two men are employed on potter's wheels making flower-pots and earthenware jars of all sizes. \*\*Illustrations: University of Reading.

Museum of English Rural Life.



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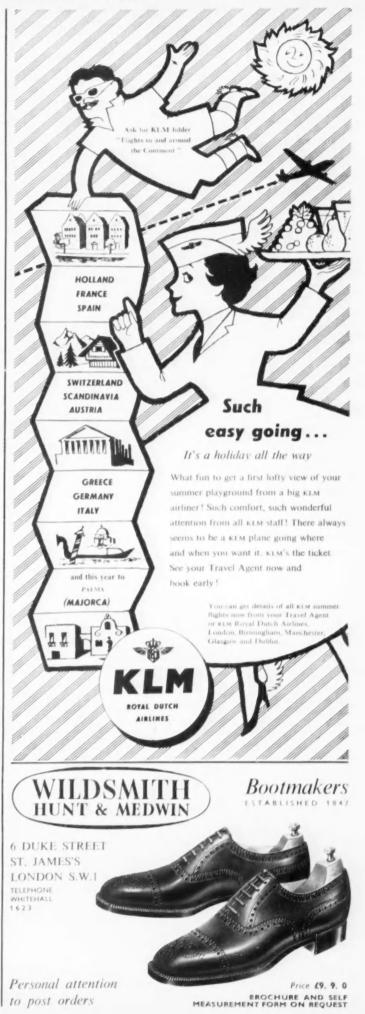
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# THE FACTS OF STRIFE

HE side that opens the bidding has a clear run on only roughly one deal out of three Certain competitive situations constantly recur in the course of a normal rubber bridge session. For example South, One Spade West, Two Clubs: North, For South, One Spade: West, pass: North, Two Diamonds: East, Two Hearts; South, ? or South, One Spade, West, double; East, Two Clubs; South, ?
In each case a player is faced with a problem which all too often resolves itself into

this: "Shall I follow my instincts, and bid, or the advice given (with appalling unanimity) in the textbooks, and pass?" I am not going to quote at length from eminent authors who devote separate chapters to the free bid and its hotted up requirements, but here is their case in a nut

Take the first of the above situations. A bid of Two Spades by North does not mean "Partner, I think we can make Two Spades, even allowing for a minimum opening. West overcall may induce East to join in the fun; if I pass, you may be unable to fight them singlehanded, so you will probably be glad to know No; what the aforethat I can support you." said authorities would have it mean is this Partner, wake up! I want to go places. You know I have enough for a double raise, since I made a free bid of Two Spades." It, on the other hand, North has no more than a sound single raise, why should be bid over Two Clubs? West has relieved him of the obligation to keep the bidding open for South, who will have another chance to speak.

It may happen, of course, that for one reason or another South will be shut out of the bidding although his hand is quite strong. But at least the partnership has kept to the right side of the tracks; it cannot be caught for a penalty. A fine safeguard, the free bid as vital to some players as a safety-pin to a baby.

From an unexpected quarter comes a voice ng in the wilderness. "Have you seen my crying in the wilderness. new book?" asked scientist Samuel M. Stayman when he recently visited London. noticed that I've got round to competitive bidding?" (An allusion to a review of his first book, Expert Bidding, and the total silence of the opposition throughout 285 example hands.) Reference to The Complete Stayman System of Contract Bridge (Rockcliff, 25s.) uncarthed the following introduction to "Trump raises over contention'

"Contrary to the mandates of almost all the popular systems, the Stayman method meets the overt threat of the adversaries with action and not with immobility. The reduced requirements for the single raise serve a dual purpose. The single raise not infrequently presents a hindrance that inhibits further interference; and when the raise does not silence the adversaries, the information conveved may make it possible for the opener to

outbid the opponents either at a makable contract or at a cheap sacrifice. Action and pre-emption require the quick thrust before the opponents have been permitted to marshal their strength and establish their lines of communication."

This passage alone, with its finely-phrased sentiments, makes the price of the book look quite reasonable. The three given examples, however, are more likely to set the Potomac on fire than the Thames

♠9 ♥ K863 ♦ Q9543 ♣862 After One Heart by partner and One Spade on your right, you are allowed to say Iwo Hear's (without interference, your first bid on the system would be Omrefinement that I may touch on later)

↑ K 1 8 5 ♥ 9 ♦ A 10 5 4 2 ↑ 9 5 4 ↑ Q 1 8 5 ♥ 9 2 ♦ Q 10 5 4 3 ↑ A 2

On both these hands, after One Spade by partner and Two Hearts on your right, you can bid Three Spades; the double raise over contention loses its forcing character and becomes a natural limit bid. (You're catching up, Sam; any moment now you'll be using the Losing

Trick Count). But Stayman goes on: be noted that the raise to Three over contention is made with a hand on which, had there been no enemy action, the responder would have given a single raise or might first have bid a side suit and then followed up with a second response in opener's smt." (Sorry, Sam; this bit gives me cold shudders

Stayman hurriedly adds. It must be emphasised that the requirements for free bidding are relaxed for the suit raise only and not for other purposes. And the example below takes most of the gilt off the ginger

 d. South's hand
 ♠ A 9 3 ♥ A 6 ♦ A Q 10 3 2 ♠ Q 5 4 One Diamond by you, pass on your left, One Heart by partner, and I wo Chibs on your right. What should you do Answer you pass. Reason: your hand does not justify a free bid at the Two level. (A possible solution, which may have occurred to my readers, is to double Two Clubs; this is just the sort of hand which produces a penalty of 800 if your partner is in a position to stand the double

No need to dwell on the innumerable hands of various types with which your partner is completely fixed if you pass over Two Clubs, especially when West digs up a Spade call we are back where we started. The example below, from a recent rubber, seems to sum up the philosophy of the strong free bidders:

West A Q 6 3 2 East A K 8 171 46 K 109743 A 6 5 2 **4** 10 · 193 Dealer, West. East-West vulnerable

Bidding West No bid 2 Hearts 2 Clubs 1 Spade 3 Hearts No bid

West led his singleton, and dummy went down with two Spades and two Diamonds. after winning a trump lead, West played Ace and another Diamond, so Three Hearts was made "I opened the bidding," said West to

# By M. HARRISON-GRAY

his partner. The rest was up to you. I was "I daresay," said East, "but there was no point in my bidding over Two Clubs unless you were strong enough to take further action."
An onlooker could contain himself no longer: "What do you mean, no point? The point seems to be that Six Diamonds is cold!" He was chided for the unseemly interruption, and East then made a handsome concession. "I wasn't good enough with 7 points to make a free bid on the first round, but I should have bid Four Diamonds on the next

You may well say "Interesting, but scarcely convincing. Who on earth would bid like that?" Well, it was not so long ago that one of our best players, who has since won a world championship medal, held the hand below during a key match in the European

tournament:

 $\spadesuit$  J 9 6 5  $\bigcirc$  2  $\bigcirc$  J 6  $\spadesuit$  K Q 10 7 4 2 West's hand. Dealer, West. Both sides vulnerable Bidding

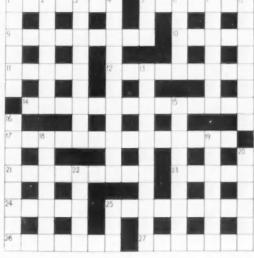
North West Fast No bid No bid 1 Diamond 1 Heart 1 No-Trump No hal 3 Hearts 4 Clubs (!) Double

Had West remained silent, North South might or might not have bid and made a game as it was, holding A J 9 8 3 in Clubs, North had no great problem. The outcome was a penalty of 1,100.

If you should ask, "What strength, then, does one need for a free bid?" I would say "Just bid as the spirit moves you, after paying some regard to the safety factor. Your aim is not to hamstring your partner, but to help him. Why leave him to fight a lone battle:

What can happen if West bids Two Clubs over One Heart? First, as he passed originally, East is not bound to speak again. Then, if East raises. Clubs. or mentions. Spades, West is charmed, if he bids Two No Trumps, West can safely sign off in Three Clubs, if he rebids his Diamonds, West's hand is by no means unsuitable. Next week I shall try to throw further light on the subject.

### No. 1362 CROSSWORD



SOLUTION TO No. 1361 The winner of this t reducerd, the tlues of which appeared in the wine of March 8, will be announced next week ACROSS. 1, Camberwell, 6, Swim, 9, Clingingly, 10, Ages, 12, Omens, 13, Fieldfare, 14, Brill; 16, Baller, 20, Routhe, 21, Level; 25, Cornerake, 26, Serny, 27, Ling; 28, Challen, 28; Sova; 30, Greenfurch, DOWN, 1, Cuckey, 2, Maden, 3, Edges, 4, Windfall; 5, Lilies; 7, Wagtanls, 8, Masterrel; 11, Advice, 15, Rehet; 17, Prickles; 18, Curren, y, 19, Reveille; 22, Father, 23, Dragon; 24, Eparch; 26, Sheat.

ACROSS

Five these are of this kind (7).
They depend on one's point of view (7).
To us 10 across is full of beaus, for a change (9).
If am too old to fawn upon a Skakespeare (5).

Shahespeare (5)
She takes an age to finish (5)
One of many empoyed by Cobbett (5, 4)
He should be the right size for the coffin (14)
Advice to the wicked, direction to the lost
perhaps (4,2,3,5)
Who has won the race? Helic? (9)
The Cigaretic in an inland voyage (5)
Start (5)
What Guy Fawkes did (9)
Sir Coudon now (7)
A cold dish taken in for the warrior (7)

57. A cold dish taken in for the warrior (7).
DOWN
L. Lake great care of the planted lettuce (6).
2. Sailor, supper, and a saint all together in the march past (7).
3. Ten hunes No (amagr.) (9).
4. Often the organist, too (11).
5. Annual heart of Lacross (3).
6. There was no choice about this settlement (5).
7. What (4 and 21 each is, and the next describes what a temale one does (7).
8. They wear first and are given to hugging (8).
13. Faxoniates on the crossword setter's menus.
15. See this kind (6).

15. See this kind (9)
16. Vessel that no restaurant should be without:
(8)

18. Copy (2)
19. Numerical division of a county (7)
20. Here the saving went "Hs ne passeront pas"

22. I mouragement to diners in Cheshire (5).

D. tr. Roysetti (3)

Newcastle-on-Tyne.

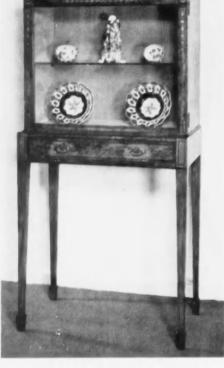
Note. This Competition does not apply to the United States.

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# THE ESTATE MARKET

# EFFECT OF RATES ON PRICES

HAT effect is the transfer from next month of a substantial portion of the total rates levied in England and Wales from private householders to occupiers of business premises (which I discussed last week) likely to have on the market value of

# SUPPLY AND DEMAND

AT first sight it seems logical that the value of private houses should increase as a result of the implementing of a law that provides for business premises to be assessed for rating on the basis of current rental values and that allows private property to be assessed at 1939 values. For example, there is no doubt that one of the reasons for the downward trend in the price of private houses that has taken place during the past three years has been the constant increases in the rate poundages levied by local authorities and many intending buyers have rejected properties, not because they were unable to raise the purchase money, but because the rate demands would take too large a slice from their income. But although it is established that under the new valuation lists private householders will, for the time being at any rate, be paying less in rates compared with occupants of commercial premises, many will, in fact, be paying out more than formally, since a large number of private properties were under-assessed in 1934 when the last valuation lists were made and have now been brought into line with comparable properties

throughout the country.

Moreover, since the Rating Bill of 1948, which sponsored the revised lists, became law, a number of develop-ments, divorced from rating, have occurred and have exercised a considerable influence on the market values of house property. For instance, so far as the smaller type of private house is concerned, there is no doubt that building is catching up with shortage, and whereas three years ago, a young, married couple in search of a house could, and did, spend fruitless week-ends visiting estate agents who had nothing suitable to offer, to-day such visits are undertaken in a more hopeful spirit. In short, the law of supply and demand is operating in favour of buyers, and for this reason it does not seem likely that the market value of houses is likely to increase to a marked extent as a result of re-rating, though—and it is a distinct possi-bility—if the Government were to impose restrictions on private building, the situation would be altered radically.

# A BENEFIT DISCOUNTED

A CLASS of property that has benefited by a "no change" rule under the new valuation lists is farm land, for it was decided that the agricultural industry was so vital to the needs of the nation that farmers should continue to be exempted from rates. Here again one might be excused rates. Here again one might be excused from thinking that the price of farm land would move sharply upwards. But the decision to exempt agricultural land from rates was made a long time ago, and in consequence the benefit had been largely discounted. Moreover, as with house property, the over, as with house property, the credit squeeze has had a depressing effect on prices, masmuch as intending buyers, though they may be able to afford the purchase price of a holding, find it increasingly difficult to borrow for the purchase of stock and machinery.

# SELECTIVE BUYERS

ALTHOUGH one has suggested that, owing to extraneous considerations, the prices of privately-owned property are not likely to show

a notable reaction to a transfer of the incidence of rates, it should not be inferred that the market for houses and farms is slack. On the contrary, the opinion of estate agents, based on instructions received from intending buyers and sellers, is that business is likely to be brisk this spring and sum-mer, though buyers are apt to be more selective in choice than in recent years. An indication of the present trend is given by Messrs. Davis, White and Perry, who, when reporting the sale by Perry, who, when reporting the sale by anction of Lus Farm, a T.T. attested holding of 208 acres situated near Wellington, Shropshire, for £27,000, an average of approximately £130 an acre, mention that in spite of the several credit squeezes that have taken place in the past twelve months there is still a strong demand for first-class accordingly local. agracultural land.

Another sale of agricultural land that was marked by brisk bidding con-cerned. Mount. Pleasant. Farm, an attested mixed holding of 210 acres structed mixed holding of 210 acres structed at Clyst St. Lawrence, East Devon. The farm came on to the market as a result of the death of the sitting tenant, whose family had farmed the land for many years. Bidding began at £12,000 and rose quickly to £19,000, at which figure the property was sold by Messrs. Rawlence and Squarey acting on behalf of the and Squarey, acting on behalf of the Governors of St. John's Hospital

An auction sale held recently that suggests that buyers have preconceived ideas of the value of land that they are invited to bid for concerned they are invited to bid for concerned the Ramsden Hall estate, Billericay, Essex (474 acres), which was offered by Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff's London office. About 70 people attended the sale, and the auctioneers, after announcing the private sale of one outlying lot, offered the remainder of the estate as a whole. The response was not satisfactory, and the property was then split up, Lot 1, 150 acres, being sold to the sitting tenant for £6,800, and Lot 5, a small house, fetching £550. Numerous lads were reing £550. Numerous bids were re-ceived for most of the other lots, but in no case was the reserve reached, and they were withdrawn. However, the auctioneers state that private negotiations are in progress and that they expect results

# SOLD AFTER AUCTION

A FEATURE of the property market that seems to emphasise the selective attitude of buyers is the number of properties that have been sold privately after they have failed to make their reserves at auction Messrs, Knight, Frank and Rutley, for example, have been concerned in three such sales recently, the relevant properties being Lamsey Farm, a dairy and arable holding of 226 acres situated at Little Gaddesden on the borders of Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the Home Farm of 266 acres at Ufington, Lincolnshire, and the main portion of the Hook End estate, Checkendon, near Henley-on-Thames, where Messrs. Nicholas acted as co-

### GOOD SHOOTING

NORFOLK is renowned for pheas-ants and partridges, and Nun-nery Place, an estate of 1,130 acres that was sold the other day by Mesars. Knight, Frank and Rutley, is said to be well up to the traditions of the county so far as shooting is concerned Indeed, the property, which is sand-wiched between Lord Iveagh's Elve-den estate and Sir John Musker's Shadwell Park estate, would seem to have a number of assets, for it hes compactly within a ring fence and incompactly within a ring fence and in-cludes a Georgian house, nine cottages and ample farm buildings.
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# THE OUTLOOK FOR **BACON PIGS**

WHEN the Government goes out of the bacon market in Y September and no longer buys bacon from Denmark and sells it here V September and no longer buys baron from Denmark and sells it here there is to be an import tariff of 10 per cent on foreign bacon to replace this State trading. What will be the effect on the baron market and more particularly on the price which the Brutish farmer will get for his bacon pigs? Much will depend on Denmark's export policy and the amount of pig meat she sends here rather than to Western Germany, which has recently offered a more attractive market for pig meat. Industrial production and food consumption there has been forging abead, thus market may not be so receptive in the future, and Denmark may willy nilly rely more on the British market. There will be nothing to stop her sending here all the bacon she chooses. All she will have to do is to pay the 10 per cent, import duty Incidentally there is nothing new in using a modest farriff on foreign food supplies; it already applies to eggs, where and various lands of front and charges. using a modest tariff on toreign food supplies; it already applies to eggs, cheese and various kinds of fruit and vegetables. The British market for bacon will be open for all, instead of import purchases being controlled by the Government

The Government has made a pro-int of about £6 million in the last year in trading in Danish bacon. Now the import tariff is likely to bring in much the same revenue to the Exchequer the same revenue to the Exchequer. The tariff will give a slight measure of protection to the home producer of baron and pigs, but not nearly enough to match the difference between production costs here and in Denmark. This gap has to be filled by subsidy. the amount paid in the current year on this account will be just under £50 million. This subsidy will con-tinue, but abviously the Government is anxious to reduce the cost. It is not as big as it was, but we shall have to work to a lower scale of guaranteed to work to a lower scale of guaranteed prices for pigs. It is reckoned that the subsidy paid on pig meat gives protection equivalent to a 30 per cent import duty

# Wet Ricks

Wet Ricks

One of the men in the village who works in a threshing gang tells me that they have had practically no lost time since the New Year. The hard weather in February suited their job and they were held up for only one day after a snowstorm when they could not move the machine on to the next farm. He surprised me by saving that many of the ricks threshed lately have been wet, with a good deal of the corn spoilt. The trouble is due to poor thatching. The roofs have been covered in slap-dash fashion and not made waterproof, as real craftsmen would do the job. Certainly the sheaves went into the ricks in dryeneigh condition last autumn and the damage has been done since. Should enough condition last autumn and the damage has been done since. Should not the N.A.A.S., or whoever is responsible nowadays, revive the instruction classes in thatching which I know proved useful in my district before the war? An experienced thatcher was the instructor, and at the end of the course there was a com-petition with prizes to reward the lads who had done the best work.

# Move Westwards

Move Westwards

By the end of this month the Royal
Agricultural Society of England
should be installed in its new house,
35. Belgrave-square. I am told that
the premises will suit the Society's
needs admirably and be much more
commodious than 16, Bedford-square.
However, there was a tinge of regret
about the move when the Council met
for the last time at No. 16, which has
served the Society for as long as I can

remember. Several friends, including the banks and leading trade exhibite at the Royal Show, have presented the society with pieces of furniture for the new Council Chamber, which will thus give pleasant associations from the start. The National Farmers' Union start. The National rarmers chion is also moving westwards from Bed-ford-square, but I have not heard a definite date when the Union will be installed in the new building in Knightsbridge. It is certainly impressive from the outside.

# Barn Equipment

IF farmers are to manage with less reliance on imported feeding stuffs, which is what the Government want to case the balance of payments, there is an urgent need for modernising our case the balance of payments, there is an urgent need for modernising our ways of handling home-grown grain on the farm and preparing it for livestock rations. Few farms are really up-to-date in this respect and a new book, Crop Drying, Barn and Storage Machinery by J. A. C. Gibb (published by Temple Press in association with Farm Mechanization, 18s.), gives advice on these problems that will be useful to many I am not mechanically minded myself, so I welcome the experience of other people who are pioneers in installing labour-saving equipment for handling home-grown grain and processing fodder in economical ways.

# For the Novice

To those who want to know about darrying on a modest scale and whether a small farm with cows may sunt their days of retirement I commend The Small Dairy Farm by A. G. Thomason (Black, 12s 6d.). The author has taken trouble to put into the simplest English the basic facts about calf rearing caring for cows and their feeding. His advice is sound on

# Rabbit Clearance

MOST of central Scotland now becomes a rabbit clearance area occupiers of land in the counties of Renfrewshire, Lanarkshire, Dun-bartonshire, Stirlingshire, Clackman-nanshire, Perthshire and Angus and naisone, Pertushire and Angus and also the cities of Glasgow and Dundee (3,375,000 acres all fold) now come under a statutory obligation to keep their land free of wild rabbits. If they fail to do so, even after specific directions given by the local Agricultural Executive Committee, they will be liable to prosecution and the Com-mittee can go in and clear the rabbits and recover the cost from the occu-piers. Through most of this area the agricultural and forestry organisations have come together voluntarily to plan a systematic campaign of rabbit rlearance. Obviously the battle against the rabbit is almost won if everyone will co-operate effectively and destroy rabbits as soon as they appear. The job would be done much more cheaply if farmers were allowed to inoculate rabbits with a virulent strain of myxomatosis, but this is barred by the Pests Act, 1954.

# Grants for Roads

M ANY farms are han licapped by dilapidated roads that are not IVI dilapidated roads that are not in a fit state to carry heavy traffic or indeed the school bus that collects the children from the cottages. There is a grant available through the county grant available through the county agricultural committees for repairing such roads by filling up the pot-holes and giving a waterproof surface Some committees are more furth-coming than others. Where a bad road is a constant trouble it is worth importuning the district officer to see importuning the district officer to get a repair scheme approved for grant.
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# THE POETESS AND THE PEDANT

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

R. HUGH STUART BOYD, who lived throughout the first half of the 19th century, was a classical scholar. If he had an especial field, it was the writings of the early Fathers of the Church. What he read therein convinced him that "the primitive Christians were neither Papists nor Unitarians. The Church of Christ during the first three centuries was exactly the same as the Church of England and the Orthodox Dissenters in its leading doctrines, and it was nearly the same as the Church of England in its discipline."

Mr. Boyd once wrote a technical middle-aged, an incurable pedantic

most affectionate Elibet" and adds a postscript: "Robert's best regards to you always." Always was not to be for long. Boyd died, very lonely, a year later. He was then 67. But this dry old pedant's life had touched one of the great love stories of the world. He was in London when the elopement was arranged. When Browning and his wife left Marylebone church, they separated for a time, and it was to Boyd's house in St. John's Wood that Elizabeth went with her maid to spend the time of waiting.

the time of waiting.

Well, then, Boyd was already middle-aged an incurable pedantic

ELIZABETH BARRETT TO MR. BOYD. Introduced and edited by Barbara P. McCarthy (John Murray, 35s.)

NEW BABYLON. By Desmond Stewart and John Haylock (Collins, 16s.)

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT. By Victor Gollancz (Gollancz, 15s.)

THE ASCENT OF RUMDOODLE. By W. E. Bowman (Max Parrish, 10s. 6d.)

work on the Greek article, and later republished it together with an essay on the Atonement and a poem in Greek To my Essay on the Article. He lived on the income from an Irish estate. He was married, and there is no evidence that either his wife or daughter was interested in his scholastic preoccupations. He became blind not long after leaving Cambridge, but this did not stop him. He engaged people to read in Greek to him and to write from his dictation.

Mr. Boyd moved about, living in hired honses, and in 1827 he was at Malvern. One of his neighbours was, like him, living on money from an estate abroad, in Jamaica; and this was so profitable an estate that its fortunate beneficiary enjoyed the amenities of an oriental mansion "with dome and turrets and crescented minarets, set in a park of tall trees, small lakes, bright gardens, and winding carriage roads." He had a wife and eleven children. His name was Barrett, and he was to be known opprobriously to later generations as "Mr. Barrett of Wimpole Street."

# RADIANT LETTERS

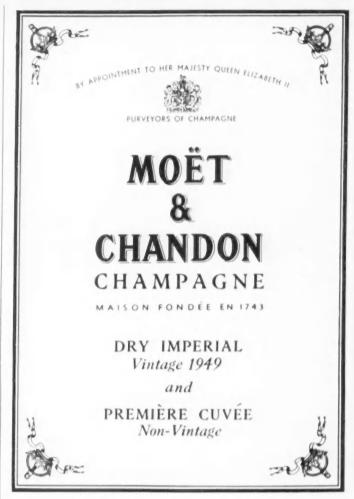
Elizabeth was Mr. Barrett's eldest child. She was twenty-one in 1827, and had recently published an erudite Essay on Mind. This attracted the attention of Mr. Boyd, and what followed is the matter of Elizabeth Barrett to Mr. Boyd, a collection of lutherto un-published letters, edited and introduced by Barbara P. McCarthy (John Murray, 35s.). These letters carry us right through the significant years of Ehzabeth Barrett's life—the first trill of her poetry, the diminution of Mr. Barrett's fortune, the loss of some of her loved ones, the move to London, the meeting with Browning and the runaway marriage. The last few letters come radiant from Italy. "Oxen will drag us in baskets up the precipitous mountain sides. Then we shall sit out in the forests and write poetry, and the poems will be as wild as the poets." She signs herself "Your grateful and

hair-splitter, when he set the ball rolling by sending some of his works to his neighbour's young daughter, and, if he wanted hair-splitting, she was ready and able to play his own game. "In my quotation from the Antigone, is not the prepositive article in the accusative case? . . . Bentley's name should be venerable in our recollections, were it only on account of his research connected with the Digamma."

# KEEPING THE PROPRIETIES

They didn't meet at once. Mr. Barrett had his views about how young ladies should behave. A passionate correspondence about the Digamma or the literary style of St. Basil was one thing—but "my Father has represented to me that, whatever gratification and improvement I might receive from a personal intercourse with you, yet, as a female, and a young female, I could not pay such a first visit as the one you proposed to me without overstepping the established observances of society."

However, they did meet from time to time, but her family moved about, and so did his, so that mainly it is a matter of letters. The personal touches are as rare as needles in haystacks of barren grammar. For her, scholarship was a spring-board to selfexpression; to him, it was a solemn obsession that as time went on she must have found unspeakably dreary But just before her marriage she writes to tell him that the hours spent with him had been "very happy and he was her "very dear friend." She says "May God bless you, dearest Mr. Boyd! Pray do not talk of dying, when I am returning to life." And she was sincere in this. She once wrote to him deploring people "who not only talk in print but talk as if they were correcting the press. I never could bear an Elzivir edition of familiar conversation, and prefer, a thousand times, the freedom and animation of nature-errata and all!" And she took Boyd like that-errata and all. He was a dull old man; but, though a rock may





When you read:—"I supported his (her) head while Derek forced some Brandy between the clenched teeth—" you may be sure that had Derek produced a bottle of Courvoisier authentic Cognac, no force would have been necessary. But perhaps Derek was a thousand miles from a decent wine merchant—or perhaps it was after hours.

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# REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING-continued

be a dreary thing, its shadow can be grateful in a weary land. His very pedantry had helped her through many a difficult hour. He had, beyond all, been staunch, and she loved him for it, and did not forget it.

### LIFE IN MODERN IRAO

Mr. Desmond Stewart and Mr. John Haylock are the joint authors of New Babylon (Collins, 16s.), a book about contemporary life in Iraq. They have lived in the country for seven years, and, though their main business was with education in Baghdad, they got about a good deal, and directed their attention to many matters. Iraq is indeed, a temptingly full depository The Nile alone, perhaps, has fertilised the human story as abundantly as the Tigris and Euphrates. Ur and Nine-vah, Ctesiphon and Samarrah, he beneath these sands; this is the place that knew the comings and goings of empires—the place that furnishes. even more than Greece, a comment on

The present moment is one such as must often have been known out there since men first emerged into some special significance among the beasts; a moment of profound change from one way of life to another. Though conscious of their past, the Baghdad people are, the authors tell us, more concerned with their present A radio station transmits the music which screeches in the coffee shops. hospitals look after the sick, there are mail boxes for your letters; and, if you can get through the slowly moving cavalcade of American cars, there are pavements along which you can window-shop. In fact, with a growing university and hundreds of schools Baghdad is in many ways like any other city." In the postcard shop the shopkeeper said: "I have two kinds of customers: foreigners, who like camels, palm trees and pictures of romantic Kurds or fierce Bedouins; and the Iraqis, who like to send pictures of their modern conveniences

The authors give us a fair look round both sides of the picture: that which has to do with Sumerians, Babylonians, Assyrians, Parthians and Persians, and that which has to do with flood-control schemes, concrete mixers, oil towns, and night-clubs They have something to say about the flux in the religious and social habits of the people, and they go far afield to regions where odd pockets of ancient belief survive: a mumble-jumble of Christianity, animism, and goodness knows what. And, as is the lovable way of the young, they find almost everything done abroad by their fellow-countrymen a matter for rather contemptuous laughter

# GREAT THOUGHTS OF MANY

Nothing is more difficult to review than an anthology. If a good book is, as Milton says, "the precious life-blood of a master spirit," what shall we say of a book made up of the loveliest thoughts of many books that in themselves are great? To commend the cream of what wise men for generaturns have already commended seems both impertinent and unnecessary. consider Mr. Victor Gollanez's anthology From Darkness to Light (Gollancz, 15s.). It is called "a confession of faith in the form of an anthology, and that is another thing about an anthology: it is, consciously or unconjously, a confession of the faith of the man who compiles it. Few books are more revealing than a compilation of this sort, which says: "Here are the things I love and live by." And yet, it is not a disparate collection of bits and pieces. It is a collection of bits and pieces that make a mosaic: a pieture of a mind projecting itself through its apprehension of the significance of truth and beauty in other minds. Thus Mr. Gollancz is justified in his claim that the book is organic: something which, for its proper understanding, must be read through. There is nothing left for me to do but commend it with all my heart—a shapely crown composed of many jewels.

# MOUNTAINEERING SATIRE

In so far as mountaineering has become a competitive and publicised thing, it must expect satire; and Mr. W. E. Bowman has had a go at it in The Ascent of Rumdoodle (Max Parrish, 10s. 6d.). It seems to me to be not wholly successful, because it falls between two stools. The letterpress is amusing enough, with that touch of robust exaggeration that satire demands; and the illustrations are very funny. Unfortunately, pictures and letterpress have nothing to do with one another. Those drawings with which Gordon Browne and artists of his sort used to illustrate articles and stories in late Victorian magazines and books tickle the modern fancy, but what on earth are they doing here? The ascent of Rumdoodle was made with all the contemporary bric-à-brac of oxygen and loud-hailers and so forth; but the illustrations show people in the, to us, ridiculous costumes and predicaments of fifty and more years ago. It is a pity, for Mr. Bowman is "on to a good thing," as they say, and he has done his part well. If you are prepared to enjoy the two parts of the book in isolation, there's no reason why you shouldn't Each is amusing

# ROMAN BRITAIN ON THE MAP

THE third edition of the Ordnance Survey's Map of Roman Britain (7s. 6d.) incorporates much new material from the discoveries of the last 25 years. The map covers the whole of Britain excluding Ireland, and includes the Boulogne corner of France, which was the chief point of departure for Britain during the centuries of Roman rule. Apart from the towns, villas, mines, etc., which are distinguished by different symbols, discoveries of Roman remains from small farms to a single coin are shown by dots, which enable one to see at a glance the different amounts of Romanisation of different areas.

The map is bound into a folder, with an introduction summarising the present knowledge of Roman Britain, three detail maps of heavily colonised areas, maps of Britain according to Ptolemy and the Antonine itinerary, and indexes of Roman names and of sites subdivided according to the type of remains found there. The map itself is elegantly produced, light in colour, and distinguishing by the type-face used between places, natural features, and names of certain or doubtful attribution. The devisers of symbols have used much ingenuity the military strongholds, for example, are classified as legionary fortresses, forts, fortlets, signal stations, temporary camps and practice camps

are classified as legionary fortresses, forts, fortlets, signal stations, temporary camps and practice camps. A minor point of criticism is the use of bright green shading to mark the areas of surviving "Celtic" type fields; to the casual observer these look like woodlands, and an outline or hatching would have been preferable.



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# EVENING PARTIES

ALL the couturiers agree that the short evening dress has become more popular than the long for every function other than the debutante dance or the formal diplomatic reception. The debutantes definitely prefer the long dress that has a billowing skirt. For the very formal party when tiaras are worn the long dress in satin, brocade, silk jersey or lace comes into its own with, this season, satin in a pale shade as first favourite.

The youthful ball dresses in the fragile fabrics, organiza or tulle, are gathered or box-pleated into the natural waistline, or the fullness springs from a very brief and closely fitting basque. The firmer silks are often mounted on a stiffened foundation so that the fabric possesses real substance and the dress will be cut in gores that mould the midriff, indicate the waist and then flow out to the hemline, widening at the back to a fan shape that floats on to the ground Under the bustline a ribbon will be laid all round, creating the illusion of a high waist. This is the nearest attempt to the much discussed Empire line that is visible and it appears in both groups, for the débutante and the sophisticated, and as a long dress as well as a short

Embroidery on the pale tinted satins is usually applied as a panel that glints all down a moulded front, while gores widen at the back, falling from a point just above the waistline Again this creates an Empire effect. But an equal number have the skirt

fullness gathered into a shallow, fitted basque at the sides and the back, leaving a straight front. Some, indeed, feature panniers each side with

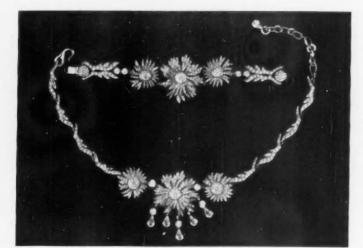
the silk supported on a stiffened foundation.

Another group of highly sophisticated long evening dresses are made in silks of a fluid nature, jersey, chiffon and an exceptionally supple type of satin. They are slender, draped across to one side or to the front, or, in the case of the jerseys, folded and twined intricately round the hips and the bodice. Some of the dresses in satin are draped round the hips and then the drapery is released as flying panels at the back that fall to the ground. Victor Stiebel shows at Jacquar an elegant slender satin in two tones of rose pink made on these lines, a dress of real distinction and drama. Ronald Paterson drapes a slender white jersey, then adds two broad lemon taffeta panels that streak all down the back. A sheath of white satin draped to the back is shown by Neil Roger at Fortnum and Mason's. The folds dip slightly all down

Alternate panels of sugar pink and white organiza are joined by white and silver embroidery. The white cape is circled by bands of white ostrich (John Cavanagh). White tulle lightly embroidered with silver and gold sequins(Norman Hartnell)



(Right) The "glass slipper" is made of transparent plastic, with a high heel and gold-beaded sole (Rayne)



Rhinestone necklace and bracelet of leaves and flowers with drops designed by Christian Dior (Mitchell Maer)

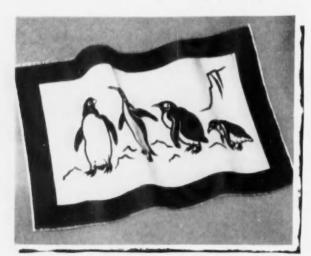
the front and there is a wide stole lined with geranium pink to fold round bare shoulders. This is a dress in the new formal manner, quite distinct in style from the romantic picture dress that has held sway for so long, and it is a very chic dress. An amber-coloured chiffon at this house is draped across with floating panels either side, and it too has its own matching stole, a very wide one with a narrow strand of dark mink edging one side. A fulle has a bouffant fluffy skirt in a subtle blending of colour, navy, brown, grey, black and white. Navy blue talle is looped at the back from the waist over radiating panels of the navy, brown, black and grey with the white talle laid in flat folds all round the oval neckline that ships off bare shoulders.

Miss Ford prefers unusual shades rather than the mundane pinks and blues. A lovely pale old gold faintly tinged with green appears for a satin ball dress and again for a cocktail dress in paperweight taffeta. The satin is embroidered all down the front of the skirt in a broad band of sequins that are exceptionally dull and subdued and arranged in



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arabesques and scrolls. For the cocktail dress taffeta of a very light texture is used. The dress has a full skirt cut in gores from the hips, and it ties on each shoulder. A short-skirted navy blue tulle cocktail dress with a frilly shoulder cape is embroidered with trails of navy silk vine leaves and tendrils all down each side of the front

leaves and tendrils all down each side of the front.

The short evening dress is very smart for almost every occasion, either in a really vivid shade, or opalescent—shell pink, a translucent green or blue, pearl grey, beige or blonde. Silks appear stiff enough to stand on their own, but they are then mounted and embroidered so that they can keep a rigid bell shape. Heavy lace is re-embroidered with chenille, narrow ribbon or braid, and then sequined and beaded; fragile lace of the Chantilly family is lightly sewn with sequins, then laid on to a silken foundation and supported by petticoats. These are the magnificent dresses intended for the older woman and they are either strapless or given broad shoulder straps as far apart as possible.

FOR the young girl who wants a short dance frock there are charming pleated paperweight taffet as in the same pale tints and also many charming cottons and organias simply made. The rose prints are particularly fashionable for summer and are quite enchanting, as Horrockses make a dress in white cotton strewn with closely furled rosebuds on long stems with their leaves. This dress has a stole lined with rose pink and narrow shoulder straps on the plain fitted bodice. Susan Small shows a dress with a V neckline back and front and a wide skirt pleated into the shallow basque. It is a mixture of nylon and cotton by Ferguson and the flower groups are warp printed so that they appear slightly blurred on the white ground that has a faint ripple on the surface. This material is almost creaseless so that it is excellent for the holiday-maker.

creaseless so that it is excellent for the holiday-maker.

Not all the designers of short evening dresses favour wide skirts. One of the most successful of all is a sheath shown by Arthur Banks, in white polished satin embossed with white velvet leaves. This dress is cut on the simplest moulded lines without a belt and with an oval neckline and an inch of sleeve and is extremely smart. A pale gold brocade at Harrods features the same sheath silhouette, and with both dresses the mannequins were elegant high-heeled mules of transparent plastic jewelled round the wafer soles and on the high spike heels.





Heavy guipure lace in mustard yellow with a square décolletage and a bow and broad ribbon of matching taffeta (Hardy Amies)

(Left) Short dinner dress in black chiffon with diagonally draped bodice and basque and a gathered skirt (Digby Morton)

Photographs by Country Lies Studio

A brand-new natural mutation mink, creamy white shading through all the pale tones of mushroom-brown, appeared at the Bradleys show made up as a wide caped stole. Called Snow Pastel, it adds yet another name to the already quite imposing glossary of mink definitions. An exquisite short jacket in glossy dark rainch mink has a strand of the mellow pastel mink twined round the turn-back cuffs, and a narrow pastel mink collar. Mixed furs were a feature of this collection. A brown Persan lamb coat has a collar lined with Chinese lamb. Black seal musquash made the mner sleeve of a nutria coat and also the collarband. A beige American broadtail had a neckband of white ermine.

Short jackets were curved into a snug hipline. Capes of all kinds outnumbered the stoles and pelerines for evening. Among the less expensive furs, a long coat in moleskin was elegantly worked with a full back belted in with many soft folds. It was collarless and dyed a lovely mellow tone of brown.

The stole of the season is in a fabric, in fur or ostrich and very long so that it folds round the shoulders and then streams to the floor. When it is fabric it contrasts with the dress, or is lined with a glowing geranium pink, Chinese blue or yellow. The ostrich stoles of John Cavanagh are most becoming. One has short curling fronds of ostrich in shades of pink stitched all over shell pink chiffon—most effective over a pale pink satin dress. Another satin dress, aquamarine blue, has a full-length coat that covers it to the ground and is a deep lapis shade. This coat is made with a high waisted effect, for the back loops over a drawstring set high above the waist and flows in widening gores to the

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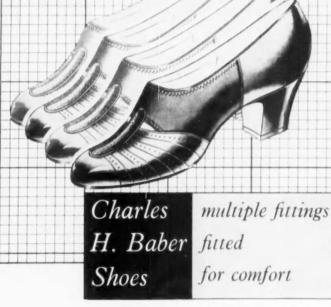
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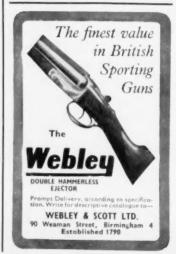
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# classified properties

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# FOR SALE-contd.

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